



03 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Letter to parents about RSE consultation**

As a part of your child's education at Rooks Heath, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy and productive lives.

You may already be aware that the Department for Education (DfE) has made Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory in all secondary schools. The DfE guidance outlines a focus on healthy relationships, keeping children safe in the modern world and topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding. As a result of this, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) will be statutory and form part of the National Curriculum. The statutory guidance can be found [here](#).

These changes were originally due to take effect from September 2020. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, schools have been given until the start of the summer term 2021 to ensure that they are fully prepared for this. All schools are required to comply with the updated requirements. This means that we will be reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our RSE provision is age-appropriate and relevant for our students.

The school appreciates that there may be a variety of opinions on this and that is why we are consulting with parents and carers before finalising parts of the school's approach to RSE and the PSHE curriculum. The school is also working on this with governors, staff and students so it is important that parents and carers also have an opportunity to give feedback. The consultation is now open and will close on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The [draft RSE policy](#) should be read prior to completing the [survey](#).

What is taught is ultimately the decision of the school but we will be looking to integrate feedback as much as possible where it aligns with the statutory guidance we are working under and within the values and ethos of Rooks Heath. Parents and carers will receive further communication after the closure of the consultation on what themes arose and how the school is considering these.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents. If you would like to find out more, or discuss any concerns, then please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

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