



HOLY TRINITY

C. E. PRIMARY ACADEMY (HANDSWORTH)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of your child's educational experience at Holy Trinity CE Primary Academy, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

As you may already be aware, the Department for Education has announced changes to relationships and sex education following nationwide consultation. These changes will come into effect from September 2020 and all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. The statutory guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

The new guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships.

Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up will give children and young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own wellbeing. Consequently, from September 2020 Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, will be statutory, and form part of the National Curriculum.

This means that we have been reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so that we can be sure our RSE provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- Age
- Physical and emotional maturity
- Religious and cultural backgrounds
- Special educational needs and disabilities

Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered, and enable

us to reach a general consensus. Consequently, as part of our curriculum review we would like your views on when and how certain content within this subject is covered.

What is taught, and how, is ultimately a decision for the school and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content as schools are legally required to teach the National Curriculum. The right to withdraw children from some lessons is explained in the FAQs which accompanies this letter.

We are currently in unprecedented times however as a school community which makes it a little more challenging to consult with you. To help you understand the curriculum requirements I have placed information on our website which I would encourage you to read. This includes:

- A summary sheet of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of primary school
- FAQ sheet
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements
- A PowerPoint presentation for parents, which will be shared at meetings
- A link to an anonymous questionnaire

I will be holding meetings virtually to run through some of our proposed curriculum resources. The meetings will be 10am Tuesday 24th November for female parents only, 2pm Tuesday 24th November for male parents only or 10am Monday 30th November, which will be a mixed group. If you would like to attend one of these meetings please email parents@htcepa.bham.sch.uk detailing your name, your child/ren's name/s and which date and time you would like to attend. A link to the meeting will be sent closer to the time. We will be starting our consultation process on Monday 23rd November and it will close on Friday 18th December.

An online consultation can be found by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/OSZKXJ/>

Consultation Questions

1. Would you like support at home, on how to speak to your child about relationship and sex issues?
2. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Curriculum outline?
3. Thinking about relationships and sex education, what do you believe is the most important subject area that should be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?
4. Thinking about relationships and sex education, is there an area that you think should not be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?

Your views are very important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process at the start of next term.

I hope this letter and attached information goes some way to alleviate any worries you may have.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. P. Burns
Headteacher

