



Ham Dingle Primary School

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

2nd February 2021

Dear parents and carers,

As a part of your child's educational experience at Ham Dingle we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. This subject area gives our children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. We currently deliver this through the Jigsaw PSHE programme and schemes of work.

Last year, the Department for Education, announced that Relationships and Sex Education would become compulsory in all schools. These changes were meant to come into effect in September 2020, but due to the impact on schools of the Covid-19 pandemic, schools have been able to delay this until the Summer term 2021. Consequently, Relationships, along with Health Education will be a statutory curriculum requirement and schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. The DfE continue to recommend that all primary schools should have a tailored and appropriate sex education programme.

How do I find out about RSE at Ham Dingle?

As a school, we are committed to working in partnership with parents and all stakeholders, and so we would value your feedback to help us when we review our current policy.

The consultation period will start on Monday 15th February 2021 and run until Friday 12th March 2021.

We would like to invite you to:

- Take the opportunity to view our draft policy and curriculum intentions
- Read a summary of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of primary school,
- Read the 'Relationship and Sex Education in the Primary School - a guide for parents and carers' publication
- Read the DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements.
- Complete a questionnaire in order for your feedback to be captured or
- Attend a webinar where you will have the chance to see an overview of the programme and ask questions



What will this mean for my child at Ham Dingle?

We will ensure that our RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) provision is appropriate for all our pupils based on their:

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

Parents/carers will have the right to withdraw their child from sex education lessons but **not** from statutory Relationships Education, Health Education or what is taught in the Science National curriculum. The right to withdraw children from some lessons is explained within the policy and there is a Guide for Parents which will be on our website next week.

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.

Next steps

Whilst we are 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. Your views are very important to us and we will feedback to you on the outcome of this process later this term. Once we have considered all the feedback, the finalised Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the school's website which will also set out the proposed curriculum.

The dates, times and links to the webinars will be sent out next week. They will be led by Ms Hunt and Mrs Parkes (PSHE Leader) and will include a presentation of the Jigsaw RSE programme and the opportunity to ask questions.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

Ms D Hunt

Head of School

Head of School: Ms D Hunt

Executive Headteacher: Miss M Green

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