



Lynnfield Primary School

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The Federation of Golden Flatts and Lynnfield Primary Schools

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26th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

From July 2021, all primary schools will be required to have **Relationships Education** in place and a **Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy**.

As a maintained school, we have an obligation to teach children from Year 1 to Year 6 about aspects of RSE and we feel it is important that as a school we are clear about what that entails. The mention of the words, 'Sex education' can create unnecessary anxiety for parents and carers and we want to reassure you that the focus of RSE in primary school is broader than you might think, focussing more so on the 'Relationships'.

We have adopted the **JIGSAW** scheme of work in order to fulfil this statutory requirement and we have begun by trialling one of the units with pupils covering 'Dreams and Goals'. The **JIGSAW** scheme covers issues such as building self-esteem, recognising feelings and emotions, healthy friendships, differences and similarities between girls and boys and challenging stereotypes, rights & responsibilities and growing and changing.

Throughout the year we cover different aspects of the **JIGSAW** curriculum through six broad topics- Being me in my World, Celebrating Difference (autumn term) Dreams & Goals, Healthy Me (spring term) Relationships and Changing Me (summer term) A focus on Relationships is covered within each topic , with the 'Changing Me' topic covering most of the Sex Education aspects.

As a parent or carer, you do have the right to request your child is removed from parts of the sex education programme, but we feel confident that the content is both relevant and appropriate for our age group. It is important to clarify that withdrawal of your child would be considered **only for content that is NOT part of the statutory science curriculum**.

Under the National Curriculum, the basics of sex education fall within the science curriculum. 'The statutory content requires maintained schools to teach children about human development, including puberty, and reproduction,'

- In Year 2, children learn that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults. They should be introduced to the concepts of reproduction and growth, but not how reproduction occurs.
- In Year 5, children are taught about the life cycles of humans and animals, including reproduction. They also learn about the changes that happen in humans from birth to old age. This includes learning what happens in puberty

Statutory elements of the RSE curriculum are also covered in the computing and PSHE curriculums.

To help you understand what will be taught, we have provided **JIGSAW** guidance on the school website, which outlines further details.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Sharpe (Executive Headteacher)