



Thursday 14th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that during this half term we will be delivering the Sex and Relationship Education curriculum requirement in Year 4.

This scheme covers:

- Puberty/body and emotional changes
- Personal hygiene
- Periods
- Healthy Relationships
- Safe touch
- Peer Pressure
- Children's Rights
- Discrimination and bullying - how to ask for help
- Recognising and Challenging stereotypes

We appreciate that some parents may be anxious about these lessons but I can assure you they are delivered age appropriately using The Tameside Public Health/LEA SRE lesson plans which have been developed especially for use with primary school children. It is important that all children take part in the lessons as we are certain that it is better to know the facts and reduce embarrassment and misconceptions around these subjects. The learning will therefore help children to communicate sensibly and effectively and in addition to this they will be able to make informed choices and keep themselves safe.

In addition to the SRE Year 4 curriculum I will be delivering a lesson based on hurtful and upsetting words that often children may know and repeat without realising this may be offensive or discriminatory.





DOWSON PRIMARY ACADEMY

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The lesson will be responsive to the children's existing knowledge and experience and therefore the content covered will be determined by their own concerns and input.

I will be asking them to share the hurtful words that are being used amongst them and anything that is said that makes them feel uncomfortable or embarrassed. We will also be exploring the use of derogatory language with particular reference to disability, racism, sexism and homophobia.

The aim of this session is to enable them to understand what is appropriate and inappropriate and what might cause further concern or consequence.

It is not possible to foresee what the children will raise, however, there is a possibility that some of it might be inappropriate and offensive. However, it will be a "one off safe place" lesson in which they can raise and address the words and phrases without fear of being in trouble. Once the lesson has been completed they will have an understanding of what will be deemed as inappropriate if used in school and what the consequences will be for continued use after the lesson. Explanations will be given in an age-appropriate way and in-line with the Sex and Relationship Curriculum for that year group.

I can assure you the lessons have been planned and discussed with the very best intentions and are in response to concerns raised by children themselves. This is part of our commitment to improve behaviour and social interaction between our children.

Should you have concerns or questions please contact either myself or Mrs Thornburn before March 20th 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Ashley

