



St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School

Strawberry Lane, Armley, LS12 1SF



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Dear Parents/Carers.

As part of your child's educational experience at St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School, we are committed to promoting the health and well-being of our pupils. In our diverse society, children need to develop an understanding of themselves, others and their community and how we can work together in harmony. They also need to know how to maintain healthy lifestyles and relationships with others.

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 2021 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, well-being and safeguarding. 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 well-being.

As a school, we have already been teaching RSE (through our Health and Relationships Education) and we have a comprehensive curriculum in place. This current curriculum already covers Sex Education, therefore with the new recommendations in place at St Bartholomew's, we would not be making any changes or adding anything new to our sex education curriculum. We do feel however that the curriculum review is a good opportunity for us to review our RSE curriculum and policy so 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 we are sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our school's decisions and enable us to reach a general consensus. Consequently, as part of our curriculum review we would like your views on:

Our draft policy for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

As a school community, we are currently in unprecedented times which makes it a little challenging to consult with you. However, to help you understand the curriculum requirements, we have placed information on our website which we would encourage you to read. These include:

- **A PowerPoint presentation for parents**
- **A summary of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of primary school**
- **Our proposed draft policy for Relationships, Sex and Health Education**
- **DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements**
- **A Consultation Questionnaire**

This can all be found on our school website in the RSE consultation section. Your views are very important to us and so we will be starting our consultation process on 5th January and it will close on 5th February. Once we have all the feedback the finalised Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the school's website and a finalised overview of the curriculum. We hope that this letter and attached information answers some of your questions and concerns that you may have. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Lawson Mrs K Brown
RSE Co-ordinators