

February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As many of you are aware through conversations with your child's Religious Education teacher at Y9 Parents' Evening, after the February half term we will begin a unit of work looking at Relationships and Sex Education (RSE).

As a Department we would much prefer to teach RSE in school "face to face" as the subject matter is best taught through discussion and interactive lessons. However RSE along with Health Education is a statutory subject and is now part of the National Curriculum and as such must be taught.

The purpose of the upcoming curriculum is to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships that are based on respect for the person. Lessons will build on the primary curriculum and will better equip your child with the information they need to make safe, informed and healthy decisions as they progress through adult life. This includes looking at the following content: families, respectful relationships including friendships, online and media, being safe, intimate and sexual relationships including sexual health.

Obviously, we endeavour to undertake the teaching of this topic in a sensitive manner. We will be using many resources provided by 'Ten Ten' a Catholic education organisation. They are fully endorsed by Liverpool Archdiocese and the resources integrate Catholic teaching about family life with the reality of growing up in modern Britain.

'Ten Ten' are currently developing a parent portal; as soon as I am able, I will provide a link on our website so you can view resources for yourself.

You do have a right to withdraw your child from sex education as part of RSE, but not any part of the curriculum that deals with the relationship element. We do believe that participation in all elements of RSE is in the best interest of all our pupils and I am sure we can count on your continued support.

If you want any further information or wish to discuss the programme further please contact me at ehooton.arrowsmith.wigan.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully

E Hooton

E HOOTON (Mrs)
RSE Co-ordinator