

# WALTON LEDALE HIGH SCHOOL



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Dear Parent/Carer

As you may already be aware, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, now forms part of the National Curriculum as of September 2020. As a result of the coronavirus, there is a delay in the required teaching start date, which is now the Autumn term in 2021.

As part of our school's wider Personal, Social and Health Education programme, your child will be receiving lessons on relationships, sexual health and personal safety. These will be taught as part of the ASPIRE programme and have subsequently been called ASPIRE lessons.

Schools are required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for Relationships Education and RSE, which will inform schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered.

The purpose of the upcoming curriculum is to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on respect. This is to encourage the development of safe and healthy relationships throughout life. The subject is designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships, and to thrive in modern Britain.

You do have a right to withdraw your child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be granted up to three terms before your child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at secondary level and we believe the content of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught. However, we are confident you will share our enthusiasm for the successful implementation of the new PSHE curriculum, which we feel will benefit all of our students. We are looking forward to sharing further information in due course.

You will find the policy here: <https://www.waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk/parents/policies>. You are welcome to contact me to discuss the programme further at: [r.sweeney@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:r.sweeney@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely

Mrs R Sweeney  
PSHE Co-ordinator