



24th May 2021

Dear Parents

On Wednesday we will be holding a drop-down Personal, Social, Health and Careers Education (PSHCE) Day in school. On this day, our timetabled curriculum will be suspended in order for us to address wider topics within the themes of relationships, health and living in the wider world. The purpose of delivering PSHCE in school is to enable students to make well-informed decisions during their school years and beyond.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is an important part of our PSHCE course and we will be delivering age-appropriate lessons to various year groups on this subject during the day. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions, which will be answered factually, and no individual will be asked to reveal any personal information. Parents have the right to withdraw students from some or all aspects of RSE until three terms before their 16th birthday, when students are able to receive this education without parental consent. We believe that it is important for students to participate in these sessions in order for them to have the opportunity to discuss pressures, check facts and dispel myths. However, if you wish to discuss the content of the sessions or ask for alternative provision to be made for your child during the RSE sessions, please contact me either by calling the school office or by emailing enquiries@whs.lancs.sch.uk, marking your email FAO Mrs Livesley. Our preference would always be that students attend these carefully-planned sessions and learn about facts rather than discussing things informally and hearing information second-hand from peers outside of the classroom.

Please see the information below for further information on content for each year group and do not hesitate to get in touch if you wish to discuss any element in further detail.

- **Year 7:** Puberty, internet safety, bullying, families and self-esteem
- **Year 8:** Relationships and sex in the media (including pornography), internet safety (including sexting), choices (including peer-pressure and grooming), family and being a teenager (including managing emotions and building resilience)
- **Year 9:** STIs and consent, fake news (including media and social media), choices (including peer influence and grooming for criminal activity), managing relationships and healthy relationships
- **Year 10:** Contraception and consent, online reputation, choices (including gangs and serious organised crime), relationship changes and recognising unwanted attention
- **Year 11:** resilience and coping strategies, employability, next steps, interviews and being healthy

We usually find that attendance is good on PSHCE days, as students enjoy the sessions and get a great deal from them, but in the case of non-attendance for any reason, students will be expected to complete the missed work. As on a usual day, all lessons will be posted on the tutor Google Classrooms for any student who may have to isolate at home.

Yours faithfully

H Livesley

Mrs H E Livesley
Assistant Headteacher