

Omega MAT Consultation on Relationships & Sex Education Policy

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Why are you consulting on a Relationships and Sex Education policy now?**

Under the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, the government has made Relationships Education part of the basic curriculum for primary pupils and therefore compulsory at primary schools (including maintained schools and academies).

- **What are the timescales for the consultation process?**

The consultation will open on 24th May and close on 21st June 2021. Individual academy schools will provide feedback to parents/carers via their consultation website on 28th June 2021.

- **What does this mean for my child?**

Depending upon the age of your child, they will learn about stages in the growth and development of humans, the changes they will experience in puberty, how to develop and maintain healthy relationship and will have an understanding of relationships in different contexts. They will not be taught sex education in primary schools outside of the National Curriculum for primary science. Please see curriculum plans for more detailed breakdown according to age.

- **How can I take part in the consultation?**

*Due to the current situation, we have decided that the best way for the consultation to take place is online. You will be able to access the RSE consultation via a website for your child's school. Parents will be sent a link to this website by their child's school. On this website you will find an introduction from the Headteacher, the draft Relationships and Sex Education Policy, long term plans outlining the curriculum for different year groups and a **link to online survey** which will enable you to provide feedback.*

- **Do I have the right to withdraw my child from Relationships and Sex Education?**

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory/non-science components of sex education within RSE. At primary school, we do not teach sex education outside of the National Curriculum for primary science, so there is no right to withdraw pupils. There is further guidance on this in Section 9 of the draft RSE policy.

- **Who will deliver Relationships and Sex Education in my child's school?**

Class teachers (primary) or Form tutors (secondary) generally deliver RSE with support from professionals where appropriate. We will be working closely with Bridgewater Community Healthcare Trust whose healthcare professionals will be supporting delivery and training staff. Class teachers/Form tutors work closely with their students and we believe that, through the relationships built, they are usually the best people to work with the students on many of the RSE topics as they are aware of each student's individual circumstances and are in the best position to support each student.

- **When will you provide feedback on the consultation on the draft policy?**

Feedback will be provided during the week beginning 28th June and it will be posted on the consultation website. We will inform parents/carers once the feedback has been posted.

- **How will sensitive issues be dealt with?**

Any RSE lesson may consider questions or issues that some students will find sensitive. Before embarking on these lessons ground rules are established in accordance with our usual expectations which prohibit inappropriate personal information being requested or disclosed by those taking part in the lesson. When students ask questions, we aim to answer them honestly, within the ground rules established at the start of the sessions, so each person feels comfortable and encouraged to participate fully. Any student who raises questions beyond the primary curriculum will be sensitively supported on an individual basis.