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30 March 2021

Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to formally consult with you about the changes to our Relationships and Sex Education curriculum (RSE). You may be aware that the Department for Education has introduced a new curriculum for Relationship Education. It is compulsory for all schools to teach this curriculum from September 2020. Parents/ carers can read the guidance here [RSE Education 2020](#)

At Bents Green School, we have always been proud of our broad and balanced curriculum which seeks to support the social and emotional needs of all our students. We have always delivered a robust personal, social and health curriculum to students of all ages and abilities. We always make sure that the content we deliver is accessible for all our learners. Our RSE teaching is sensitive, age and developmentally appropriate and is delivered within a structured framework.

We have been working with Sheffield Local Authority, who have developed a Sheffield curriculum model for RSE. The curriculum developed by Learn Sheffield is a community led curriculum. A wide ranging consultation has taken place across a range of sectors including; NHS, Schools, Public Health, Faith Leaders, Charities, Universities, Young people and Parents/Carers.

As a school for young people with autism and communication needs, we have also carried out further research on delivering relationships and sex education for young people with Autism Spectrum Disorders. We want to ensure our curriculum is robust and reflects the most up to date research in this area. We have recently delivered training to all staff to help to build confidence in the effective delivery of this curriculum. Due to the school closure last academic year, we are aware that many young people will not have accessed our usual programme of study. This year, teachers have selected the topics they feel are most relevant to their class and will deliver this in the summer term.

We want to ensure that our RSE curriculum meets the needs of all our learners, regardless of their age, ability or gender. We have therefore selected from both the primary and secondary curriculum models. The curriculum will be carefully selected to ensure it is age and developmental appropriate for each student. We understand that the content is highly sensitive and can be at times uncomfortable to discuss such sensitive topics at home or at school. We would like to support parents/carers by inviting you to a Zoom meeting in which we will share with you more information regarding the curriculum and to signpost you to resources which you may find useful at home. Parents/ carers are welcome to join this meeting on Wednesday 5th May at 5pm via the link below



Claire Bailey is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: RSE Curriculum Meeting

Time: May 5, 2021 05:00 PM Greenwich Mean Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84827012624?pwd=YitaVFMydHI3NEtuajB6YnF4MmNnUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 2701 2624

Passcode: cgk31s

Teachers have modified the curriculum for this academic year to address loss of curriculum time due to the pandemic. We will encourage tutors to inform parents/ carers the curriculum topics which will be covered in the summer.

If Parents/Carers would like access to further resources, please see the links below;

[NAS - Sex education - a guide for parents](#)

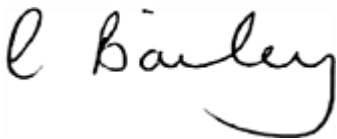
[The Growing Up Guide for Girls: What Girls on the Autism Spectrum Need to Know!](#)

[The Growing Up Book for Boys: What Boys on the Autism Spectrum Need to Know!](#)

[Sexuality and Relationship Education for Children and Adolescents with Autism Spectrum](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school. However, the Zoom meeting scheduled for 5th May aims to provide all the relevant information required.

Yours sincerely



Claire Bailey

Deputy Headteacher

cbailey@bentsgreen.sheffield.sch.uk

Summary of the RSE Curriculum at BGS

Each area will be tailored to meet the needs of each pathway. Individual students can have access to structured, targeted interventions regarding relationships and sexual health as required. Parents/ carers will be informed of any additional input provided. Key topics will often be revisited each year to ensure students have a secure understanding. We can provide support and guidance for families if they have any specific concerns or questions.

	Relationships	Health	Living in the modern world
Y7	Healthy Relationships Family & Friendships Gender	Healthy Lifestyle choices Growing & Changing	Keeping safe online Private & public Good touch / bad touch
Y8	Respectful relationships (rights & responsibilities) Peer pressure Changes in families	Body Parts & fluids Puberty Appearance & personal hygiene	Staying safe –physical dangers in & out of the home Body image & the media
Y9	Managing social relationships Emotional Understanding, Regulation & Sensory Sensitivities	Conception, pregnancy & birth Healthy lifestyle choices	Safety Skills & assertiveness Online Safety
Y10	Relationships, Intimacy & Sex	Sexual Health	RSE & the law Consent
Y11	Intimate relationships & family life Parenting Awareness	Positive Mental Health	Sexuality, equality & the law
Post 16	Forming & maintaining respectful relationships.	Health services and support Conception, contraception, pregnancy & birth	Consent, abuse and discrimination Managing risk & personal safety Online Dating