

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a part of your child's educational experience at Freeman's, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. As you may already be aware, the Department for Education has announced changes to relationships and sex education following nationwide consultation. These changes will come into effect from September 2020 and all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. Due to COVID 19 schools have been able to delay this until Summer Term 2021. The statutory guidance can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

The new guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships.

Learning about the emotional, social, and physical aspects of growing up will give children and young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

Consequently, from September 2020 Relationships along with Health Education was made statutory and forms part of the National Curriculum. Though sex education is not statutory, the DfE continue to recommend that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of pupils. Where schools provide sex education at Key Stage 1 and 2, parents will have the right to withdraw their child from sex education but not from statutory Relationships Education, Health Education or what is taught in the Science National Curriculum.

PSHE education is taught throughout the school in every year group; Relationships and Health education will also be taught in all years, however, Sex Education will only be taught in Year 5 and 6.

In Sex Education in Year 5, the children will learn about changes that happen physically and emotionally during puberty. They will learn about this in their PSHE lessons weekly in school and will have a visit from the school nurse on the 29th of June.

In Sex Education in Year 6, the children will learn that sexual intercourse can lead to conception and they will also learn about childbirth and the stages of development of a baby. They will learn about this in their PSHE lessons each week. A more detailed breakdown of the content taught can be found in Appendix 1 and if you would like to see the resources that will be used in the sex education teaching unit we can provide you with links or documents to view them. If parents wish to withdraw their child from the Year 5 or 6 Sex Education sessions they will need to make an appointment to discuss their decision with Mrs Hull, Headteacher.

PEDET's Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy (RSHE) outlines the content and coverage of these units of work and the Appendix 1 document shows how these units will be taught in our school, including how we will manage questions asked by the children. We have attached the relevant documents for you to read through at your convenience; they will also be uploaded onto the school website in the 'Parents' area. As part of our curriculum review we would appreciate your views on our draft policy and plans. We hope that consulting with you will help to inform our schools' decisions of when and how certain content is covered. Please complete the form below and return to me on fiona.hull@freemansendowed.org by Friday 28th May 2021.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents; your views are very important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process later this term. Once we have considered all of the feedback, the finalised RSHE policy will be uploaded to the school website.

I hope this letter and information on the school website goes some way to answer any questions you may have. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,

Mrs Fiona Hull
Headteacher