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Dear Parents/Carers,

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Parental Consultation

As a part of your child's educational experience at Stamford Bridge Primary School, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children and young people 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 (DfE) announced changes to the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) part of the National Curriculum following nationwide consultation. The new curriculum was made compulsory from September 2020 and all schools are required to begin teaching the updated requirements by 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/relationships-education-primary>

Consequently, RSE will be statutory and form part of the National Curriculum. This means that we have been reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- Age, physical and emotional maturity;
- Cultural backgrounds;
- Special educational needs and disabilities.

In primary schools, the new guidance focuses on **healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world**. It also 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 wellbeing.

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The sex education aspect of RSE is **not** compulsory in primary schools, however, in Y5 and Y6 at Stamford Bridge Primary School, the children will learn about puberty and changes to their body, and in Y6, some aspects of sex education (human reproduction). Further details will be communicated to parents of Y5 and Y6 children prior to this happening, and you will be offered the opportunity to withdraw your child from these sessions if you wish.

Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered and enable us to reach a general consensus. Consequently, as part of our curriculum review, we would like your views on this through the linked survey below. Please do note that what is taught and how is ultimately a decision for the school as schools are legally required to teach the National Curriculum.

We are currently in unprecedented times as a school community which makes it a little more challenging to consult with you. To help you understand the curriculum requirements, I have attached the information below alongside this letter. This includes:

- PSHE and RSE skills and knowledge progression document;
- Our proposed RSE Policy;
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements (see link above).

Please read the attached documents and then follow the link below to access the parent survey via Microsoft Forms. **The survey will be open until 26th February 2021.**

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yOA3ad_CyUGmrlIa3hY0pP7fY-GaliBNg53GPeMec_1UNUZVSEIzQjFWVzFHMVRFNFU1UDNONU0ySi4u

Your views are especially important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process later in the Spring Term. Once we have considered all of the feedback, the updated RSE Policy will be uploaded to the school's website.

I hope this letter and attached information provided goes some way to alleviate any worries you may have. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Emily Clark

(PSHE and RSE lead)