

## Response to RSHE Parent Survey

Thank you to those of you who took part in our parent survey about the RSHE curriculum. The responses that we received were very positive and constructive. It was really helpful to hear your views and we wanted to put together a document that answered your questions and addressed any issues that you raised.

From the feedback we received one point that was made was that the titles of the topics are brief and a little difficult to interpret and you would appreciate more details. As you will see from the overviews of all our curriculum areas we give each topic a title. As with all curriculum areas this is just a summary to give you an idea of coverage because as we are sure you can appreciate even within one lesson there is a substantial amount of learning covered. To provide you with a little more insight into each topic we have produced a Curriculum Coverage document which gives a more detailed summary of the learning for each area. If you require further information about the content of any of the topics as they come up then the class teacher is the best person to talk to about what they will be covering. But teachers may also provide you with more information via class letters at the beginning of term, messages on Class Dojo, parents evenings, an RSHE meeting (when Covid restrictions allow). The curriculum overview is a working document that we use in school and the terms PiXL and RSE Solutions are the resources that we are using to support our planning and delivery of the topics so you do not need to worry that you do not understand these terms.

One of the questions asked if there was anything that you felt should be included in the curriculum. As with all areas of the curriculum we will provide children with accurate, factual and non-biased information. We will consider the age and stage of the children when planning and delivering sessions and when we are answering their questions. The knowledge and skills that children acquire will build on their prior learning. We want to equip our pupils with positive beliefs, values and attitudes to enable them to be safe and successful in the modern world. Much of the work that we are undertaking about friendships, families, relationships, feelings, the body, health and safety was work that we were already doing in school prior to the new RSHE requirements, as are most of the areas that you raised as concerns. Children will be exploring and learning to challenge gender stereotypes. They will be introduced to terms associated with gender identity and sexual orientation and understand that homophobic and transphobic bullying is unacceptable. They will be using scientifically accurate words for body parts and will learn the changes that their bodies will go through during puberty. And in Year 6 they will learn about human reproduction, which is an area that we were already covering prior to the new RSHE requirements. Our work on healthy eating focusses mainly on having a balanced diet and why this is important for health. We don't specifically teach about eating disorders at this time.

Another point that was raised was that children may be shy and embarrassed to ask questions in lessons such as sex education and mental health. In these sessions we

will have an 'ask it basket' or 'question box' if children do not feel confident to ask a question. We will ask all children to write and post something even if it is just something that they have found interesting or a hello to the teacher so that individuals cannot be identified by their peers as the person who asked a question. But as teachers who have taught many of these topics for many years including sex education, you would probably be surprised by how curious the children are and the questions that they feel comfortable to ask. It is clear from the survey that for most of you the concerns that you have over the content of what will be taught are the areas that the children will be learning about in latter Key Stage 2 when their level of maturity better equips them for the subjects that they will cover.

I hope that this information and the curriculum coverage document helps to provide you with a little more clarity and helps to address any issues or queries that you raised in the survey.

Emma Preston  
(RSHE Lead)