

St John's Church of England Academy

Winsford Avenue, Allesley Park, Coventry CV5 9HZ

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Headteacher Mr G. Watson



27th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to share some changes and updates, as well as to inform you about our current **Parent Consultation**.

At St John's we have re-written our RHE curriculum (you might know this as PSHE), in line with new government guidance, linked guidance, as well as ensuring it is in line with our St John's ethos and values.

Why have we made these changes?

Ofsted had found that Relationships and Sex Education needed improvement in over a third of the primary and secondary schools they inspected. In primary schools this was because too much emphasis was placed on friendships and relationships, leaving pupils ill-prepared for physical and emotional changes during puberty, which many children begin to experience well before they reach secondary school. This is why the curriculum has changed from PSHE to Relationships and Health Education (RHE) in Primary schools which will include age appropriate information for pupils and their families. The change to the curriculum became statutory from September 2020. A guide for parents can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907638/RSE_primary_schools_guide_for_parents.pdf

More Government Guidance information can be found at :

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf

Relationships and Health Education

Our focus in Reception and KS1 will be, as it always has been, on friendship-building and relationships that are important to us. We will be learning about ourselves and our family and sharing the experience of other people's families to make the children aware of the wonderfully diverse world that we live in. This continues through the school, until Year 5 and 6, when the children are taught about the physical changes in their bodies during puberty.

We have begun delivering our RHE curriculum with the children in school. It includes learning based under six main headings: Our Safety, Our Relationships, Our Bodies, Our Community, Our Future and Our Feelings and Wellbeing.



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Registered Office: The Benn Education Centre, Claremont Road, Rugby CV21 3LU

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How can I share my feelings and thoughts around this curriculum area?

There are aspects of the new curriculum and guidance that, as a school, we wish to seek your thoughts and feelings around to enable our provision to meet every child's needs.

A working party including parents, governors, members of staff and myself have looked at all the guidance, information regarding sex education for Years 5 and 6 and the vocabulary used within the RHE curriculum.

All decisions around learning, which goes beyond the Science National Curriculum, along with all aspects of sex education must be considered by and approved by the school governors. It is these areas, where parents still have the right to withdraw their child from a lesson, however we are working together, keeping you informed, to ensure we provide a high quality, informative, age-appropriate and sensitive curriculum that will equip your children as they develop. More information will be sent home once the consultation is complete.

The video link takes you to an information video recorded by Mrs Henderson and Miss Lucas, to help you understand the RHE curriculum and the RSE curriculums.

<https://youtu.be/UwxFnVCGSvU>



Once you have watched the video, please share your views in our parent consultation here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQv6C59NgckKMFhZzpczQVeAlbr2YzFW_V_Glx7CtQxdhxA/viiewform?usp=sf_link

Thank you for your support with developing our curriculum for your children.

Kind Regards,

Mr Watson

Mrs Sara Henderson

Miss Lucas

Headteacher

Assistant Head and SENDCO

RHE Lead

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