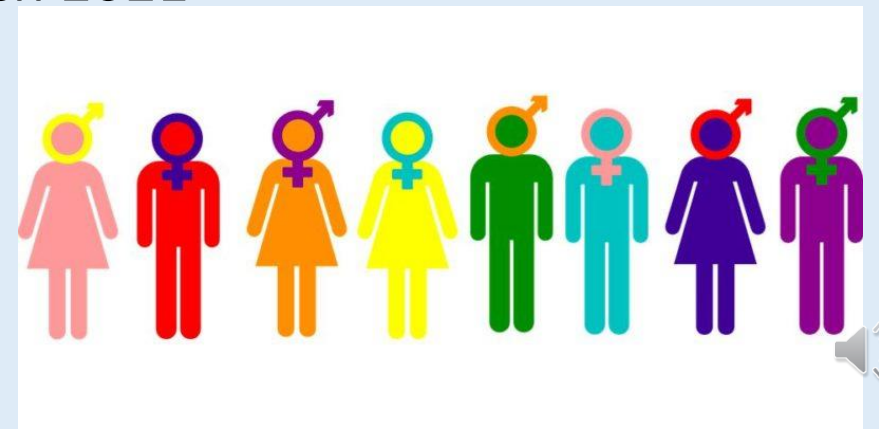




Parental Consultation Relationships and Health Education

Monday 1st March – Monday 15th March 2021



Why is the curriculum changing?

- Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.
- This is why the government have made Relationships and Health Education compulsory in all primary schools in England.
- These subjects are designed to equip your child with knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as preparing for a successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when the curriculum was last updated.



What does the new Statutory Guidance cover?



- **Relationship Education**

- The focus in primary school is on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults. The Department for Education guidance requires us to teach objectives under the following headings:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe



- **Physical Health and Mental Education**

- The focus in primary school should be on teaching the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing.
- The Department for Education guidance requires us to teach objectives under the following headings:
 - Mental wellbeing
 - Internet safety and harms
 - Physical health and fitness
 - Healthy eating
 - Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
 - Health and prevention
 - Basic first aid
 - Changing adolescent body



Why is Relationships and Health Education important?



- More than ever before, children are exposed to representations of sex and sexuality through the social culture around them. The unregulated content on the internet or social media, can mean children may be exposed to dangerous, confusing or scary content. We can prepare them for this by presenting a balanced view of positive healthy relationships to help them to be discerning and to stay safe.
- A range of independent research consistently shows that effective Relationship Education delays first sexual experience and reduces risk-taking in young people.
- Surveys of children and young people, as well as Ofsted, have repeatedly said that Relationship and Health Education tends to be “too little, too late and too biological”. This is one of the many reasons why the Department for Education is making Relationships and Health Education compulsory in primary schools, with an emphasis on Relationships Education.

Teaching Relationships and Health Education

- In school, we have always taught PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education).
- At Pike Fold to support our delivery of a PSHE curriculum which encompasses the new requirements regarding Relationships and Health Education we will be implementing a scheme called "Jigsaw." Jigsaw is a highly recommended scheme of work, widely used in schools across the UK, it is comprehensive and includes a wealth of quality resources. Lessons will take place once per week and will last up to an hour.



The lessons and resources are designed to be used from Reception through to Year 6.

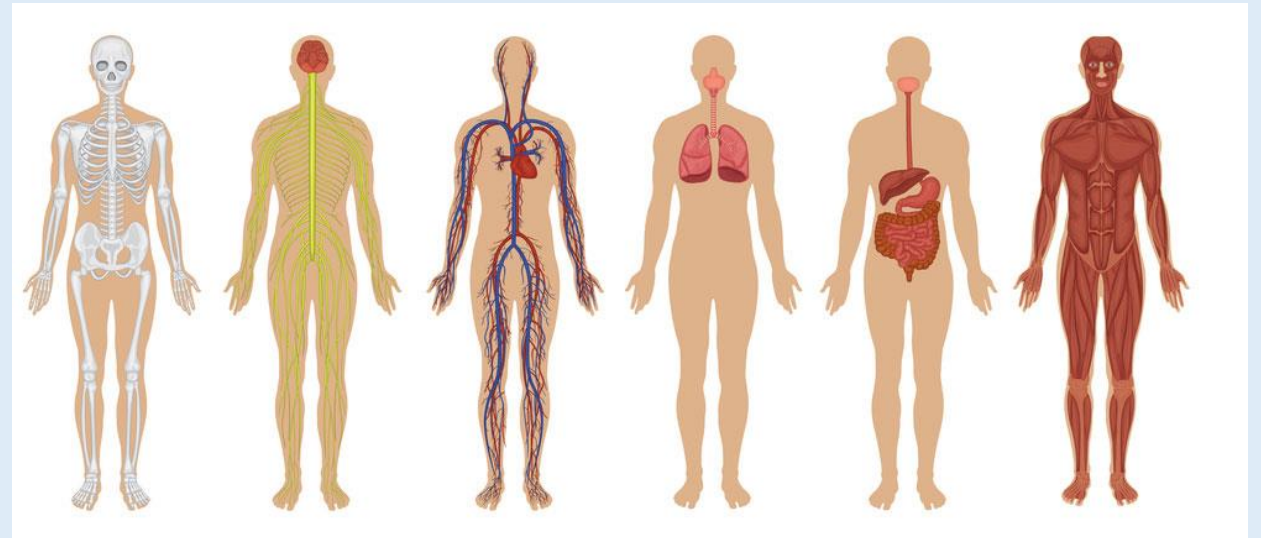
Teaching Relationships and Health Education in the Science Curriculum



- It is compulsory for all maintained schools to teach the parts of relationships and health education that fall under National Curriculum Science which must be taught to all pupils of primary and secondary age.
- Key Stage 1
 - Year 1 pupils should be taught to: Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense
 - Year 2 pupils should be taught to: Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

- Key Stage 2

- Year 5 pupils should be taught to: Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Describe the changes as humans develop to old age.
- Year 6 pupils should be taught to: Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents



What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ+?

- The Jigsaw philosophy values every child as a unique human being and does not discriminate but supports them all to achieve the best they can be. Jigsaw's lessons help children explore why a loving and caring family is important. They have been written so that no child is made to feel inadequate or unaccepted, whatever their family background.
- School (and wider society) is a place where all children should feel safe and respected. There are a variety of family situations in British society; some children will have parents who are separated, some may live with a mum and a dad, some may have step-parents, and some may be fostered or adopted. Some may have other family arrangements; and some will have LGBTQ parents or other LGBTQ family members. Any child who lives in a family that is different from the stereotypical household of mum, dad, and children should not be made to feel less accepted, or that their family is any less loving and caring.
- Jigsaw also teaches children that any word used as an insult is hurtful and unkind. Within some of these lessons, children may raise homophobic or transphobic words they know or have used themselves. This affords teachers an opportunity to explain that using these words, in this way, is unacceptable. We are teaching children that respect and kindness are important values.

What will my child actually be taught about puberty and human reproduction?

- Jigsaw's 'Changing Me' unit is taught over a period of 6 weeks, usually in the second half of the summer term. Each year group will be taught appropriate to their age and developmental stage, building on the previous years' learning.
- Please note: at no point will a child be taught something that is inappropriate; and if a question from a child arises and the teacher feels it would be inappropriate to answer, (for example, because of its mature or explicit nature), the child will be encouraged to ask his/her parents or carers at home. The question will not be answered to the child or class if it is outside the remit of that year group's programme.

The Changing Me Puzzle is all about coping positively with change and includes:

- Ages 3-5 (Reception) Growing up: how we have changed since we were babies.
- Ages 5-6 (Year 1) Boys' and girls' bodies; correct names for body parts.
- Ages 6-7 (Year 2) Boys' and girls' bodies; body parts and respecting privacy (which parts of the body are private and why this is).
- Ages 7-8 (Year 3) How babies grow and how boys' and girls' bodies change as they grow older. Introduction to puberty and menstruation.
- Ages 8-9 (Year 4) Internal and external reproductive body parts. Recap about puberty and menstruation. Conception explained in simple terms.
- Ages 9-10 (Year 5) Puberty for boys and girls in more detail including the social and emotional aspects of becoming an adolescent. Conception explained in simple biological terms.
- Ages 10-11 (Year 6) Puberty for boys and girls revisited. Understanding conception to the birth of a baby. Becoming a teenager.

All lessons are taught using correct terminology, child-friendly language and diagrams.

Further information on the detail of the curriculum can be found on the school website.

Your rights as a parent

- The important lessons you teach your child about healthy relationships, looking after themselves and staying safe, are respected and valued under this new curriculum. Teaching at school will complement and reinforce the lessons you teach your child as they grow up.
- You can express your opinion, and may help us decide how and when to cover the content of the statutory guidance. It may also help us decide whether to teach additional non-statutory content.
- You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.
- The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.
- If you do not want your child to take part in other areas of this curriculum please arrange to speak with Mrs Farnell-Hill.

Next steps - We would like your views

- We hope, as parents/carers you have the confidence that we are providing the highest quality education for your children. As a school community we are committed to working in partnership with parents so your views will be greatly appreciated to further inform our Relationships and Health Education policy and curriculum.
- Please complete the Parent Consultation Questionnaire to add any feedback and share curriculum queries (<https://forms.gle/rjvfKc5wLQ1V9LUG8>). You may also share curriculum queries by emailing us at: admin@pikefold.manchester.sch.uk
- We will be seeking your views until 15th March. We will then hold virtual parents information meetings and continue to develop our Relationships and Health Education Policy.
- Following government guidance we will be teaching the curriculum after Easter in the summer term 2021.

*Thank you
for Listening!*