



Heworth Grange School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)

Dear Parent/Carer

The teaching of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) became compulsory in the academic year 2019-20. Start dates have been postponed a number of times in response to the on-going disruption caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, but Heworth began teaching this curriculum in the academic year 2020 -21 and all parents/carers were consulted on the new PSHE curriculum. Once again this year we will be teaching the new statutory RSHE (relationships, sex and health education) elements within our PSHE (Personal, social, health education) curriculum and we are again consulting with all parents/carers as we begin teaching these elements.

This component of the curriculum has been introduced by the government as:

“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.” (DfE Statutory guidance)

Aspects of this curriculum entitlement are already taught within National Curriculum subjects such as Science, English, ICT and PE, but the vast majority will be taught in Social and Cultural Studies.

Parents and Carers have the right to withdraw their child from the Sex Education component of the RSHE curriculum, but all other aspects remain compulsory. Sex education does, however, remain compulsory in the National Curriculum and is taught primarily in science and covers topics such as human growth and reproduction.

I would like to draw your attention to several resources designed to support your understanding of the RSHE programme of study. All the resources listed below are available in the [Key Information > Policies](#) section of the school’s website but can also be found using the links below:

- ***Department for Education RSHE summary guide for parents – [click here](#)***
- ***Heworth Grange RSHE policy 2021 -22 – [click here](#)***
- ***Department for Education RSHE statutory guidance document. This document outlines, from page 25 onwards, the topics to be taught in secondary schools – [click here](#)***

We are always keen to consider your views and seek assurances that you are fully aware of your child’s curriculum entitlement, in respect of RSHE, and the right to withdraw them from Sex Education but not Relationships and Health Education. We would therefore be grateful if you could take a moment to look at the our RSHE policy on the school website; at the end of the policy there is a section for you to complete and return to school should you wish to do so, to offer us additional feedback which will be used to further inform our policy and teaching approaches.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Searles

Assistant Head teacher (Personal Development)