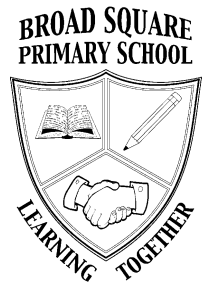




BROAD SQUARE PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Dear parents and carers,

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE)

As of September 2020, all primary schools are statutorily required to have a **Relationships and Health Education** programme in place.

As a maintained school, we have an obligation to teach children from Year 1 to Year 6 about aspects of RSE. The mention of the words, 'Sex education' can create unnecessary anxiety for parents and carers and we want to reassure you that the focus of much RSE in primary school is broader than you might think, focussing more so on the Relationships rather than the Sex aspect. RSE is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up and relationships. Some aspects are taught in science, and others are taught as part of personal, social, health and economic education (P.S.H.E).

The aim is to provide pupils with accurate information about the body and reproduction as well as the essential skills needed for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline. **This is all done at an age-appropriate level.**

THE LEGAL POSITION FOR RSE

Relationship Education and Health Education are now statutory in all Primary Schools in England and children **CANNOT** be withdrawn from these lessons. RSE plays an important part in fulfilling the statutory duties all schools have to meet.

- RSE plays a vital part in meeting schools' safeguarding obligations. Ofsted is clear that schools must have a curriculum that enables pupils to learn about positive relationships.
- Schools maintain a statutory obligation under the Children Act (2004) to promote their pupils' wellbeing and under the Education Act (1996) to prepare children and young people for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life.
- Under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010, a P.S.H.E curriculum should promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of the pupils and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.
- In the National Curriculum review, the government has made it clear that all state schools 'should make provision for personal, social, health and economic educations (PSHE) drawing on good practice' (National Curriculum in England, DfE, 2013) and that 'sex and relationship education (SRE) is an important part of PSHE education' (Guidance – PSHE education, DfE, 2013).



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TEACHING AND LEARNING

In Summer Term 2, RSE is delivered in a clear, concise and consistent manner in line with national and local guidelines and using a comprehensive Scheme of Learning for P.S.H.E. (Jigsaw). Whilst the core SRE content is delivered through the 'Changing Me' Puzzle, essential work is done in previous puzzles to build children's self-esteem, to enhance their own sense of self in regard to their body image, how to develop caring and healthy relationships and how to develop assertiveness skills in keeping themselves valued, safe and respected. This work underpins the explicit SRE content and is part of the holistic approach to SRE teaching and learning.

YEAR GROUP	ATTAINMENT DESCRIPTORS
YEAR 1 YEAR 2	I know that boys and girls are different. I know that some parts of my body are private. I respect my body. I can identify the parts of the body that make boys different to girls and can use the correct names for these.
YEAR 3	I understand that boys' and girls' bodies need to change so that when they grow up their bodies can make babies I can identify how boys' and girls' bodies change on the outside during this growing up process I can identify how boys' and girls' bodies change on the inside during the growing up process and can tell you why these changes are necessary so that their bodies can make babies when they grow up
YEAR 4	I can correctly label the internal and external parts of male and female bodies that are necessary for making a baby. I can describe how a girl's body changes in order for her to be able to have babies when she is an adult, and that menstruation (having periods) is a natural part of this I can tell you something I like and something that worries me about the idea of growing up.
YEAR 5	I can identify some changes that happen to girls' and boys' bodies during puberty. I know my body will change during puberty and I can tell you how I feel about this. I know what conception is and that is how babies are usually made. I also understand that sometimes people need IVF to help them have a baby.
YEAR 6	I can identify the main stages by which a baby develops through conception, pregnancy and birth and can tell you some words that describe my feelings about this.

PARENTS / CARERS WITHDRAWAL

To be clear, where parents once had the choice to remove their child from all RSE lessons each year, the vast majority of what is now required of schools is **statutory** and must be taught to all pupils. You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships and Health Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

As a parent or carer, you do have the right to request your child is removed from parts of the sex education programme, but we feel confident that the content is both **relevant and appropriate for the different age groups**. Jigsaw has deemed that only 3 lessons are considered as 'human reproduction' and therefore only these lessons children can be withdrawn from. One lesson in YR4 'having a baby', one lesson in YR5 'conception' and one lesson in YR6 'conception to birth'. It is important to clarify that withdrawal of your child would only be considered **only for content that is not part of the statutory science curriculum**.

Parents are welcome to make an appointment with the PSHE co-ordinator to talk more in detail about the topic and any concerns you may have. To help you understand what will be taught from September 2020, a concise overview of content by year group has been uploaded to the school website, along Jigsaw leaflets outlining further detail

Yours sincerely, D.McNamara, Curriculum Leader





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