

Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

Federation Headteacher: Miss Z J Linington

Potton Road, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. SG18 0EJ

Tel: 01767 314562

E-mail: info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk

Web: <http://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk>



14 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 6 PSHCE Education Programme

As a part of your child's education at Edward Peake C of E Middle School, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic (PSHCE) education programme. PSHCE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

I am writing to let you know that your child's class will be taking part in lessons which will focus on the health education (HE) aspect of this programme after half term.

These HE lessons will include teaching about growing and changing, including how puberty changes can affect our emotions and feelings and ways to manage this; questions about puberty and change, including periods and wet dreams. These lessons will be blended with the Year 6 Autumn 2 PSHCE objectives. Pupils will have opportunities (as in all PSHCE lessons) to ask questions either within the class or anonymously. The pupils will then continue their Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) lessons in the Summer Term.

Since September 2020, the statutory guidance for RSE has changed. Parents with children in Key Stage 2 will not be able to withdraw their children from any aspect of Relationship Education or Health Education (which includes learning about the changing adolescent body and puberty).

The focus of relationships education is to teach your child about what healthy and unhealthy relationships look like so they can be safe at school, at home and online. We will also teach them about how their friends' families might be different from their own families. Their friends might have different religions, speak different languages at home, or have 2 parents of the same gender.

The aim of our relationships education is to reinforce the values you're likely to be teaching your child anyway:

- Being kind to others
- Respecting others' differences
- Living in peace with each other



The Department for Education requires that we teach relationships and health education to all pupils. However, within Year 6, we will also be covering Sex Education (SE) in the Summer Term. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from any aspect of SE. The topics Year 6 will be covering are adult relationships and human reproduction, including different ways to start a family. If you do choose to withdraw your child, you will need to complete the form attached to this letter and return it to your child's form tutor. It is important to consider though that it is better to educate the pupils in an age appropriate manner and in a safe environment.

Our sex education programme is tailored to our pupils' age, and physical and emotional maturity. As children get older, they may be confused by changes in their bodies – this confusion can be made worse by misinformation online and from other children. We offer fact-based education to reassure your child that what they're experiencing is normal, and we explain the science behind these changes. We encourage you to keep your child in this programme and to have conversations at home about this topic.

PSHCE education is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the teaching staff and governing body. Please visit the school's website: <http://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk/> for more details about our PSHCE curriculum. All PSHCE teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. If you'd like more information about pupil withdrawal within Year 6, please speak to your child's PSHCE teacher about your concerns.

For more information on RSE within the primary education phase you may want to visit these websites and discover how you can best support your child to discuss these topics at home.

<https://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk>

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z7f3cdm> - PSHCE and Citizenship

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Hooper', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Miss D Hooper
Subject Lead for PSHCE

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Reply slip for Miss Hooper – Year 6 PSHCE Education Programme

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	Include notes from discussions with parents and agreed actions taken.

