



Our Ref: AJC/MS

31 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carers

**Re: Relationships, Sex and Health Education**

You will be aware that, as a part of your child's educational experience at Pilgrim Academy, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

From September 2020, the Department for Education made Relationships and Health Education compulsory in all primary schools. In September 2020, it became compulsory for all primary schools to teach Relationships, Health and Sex Education. The rollout of this was delayed due to the Coronavirus pandemic and schools must now begin teaching this curriculum by the start of the summer term 2021.

**What does the new guidance mean?**

The new guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships. Children will learn about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up and will give them the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships as well as helping them take responsibility for their own well-being.

As with all statutory subjects, there is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education, Health Education or any content covered by the National Curriculum for Science. Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of the Sex Education delivered in year five and six (conception and birth) following discussions with the Principal.

**How will this be delivered?**

This guidance will form part of our school's Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) education programme which is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly. All teaching in RSHE and PSHE will take place in a safe learning environment, underpinned by our school's vision and values and will be taught following guidelines and using resources from the PSHE Association.

A variety of opportunities will be provided for pupils to ask questions to further their understanding and to find out more about what affects them personally.

### **Suggestions and questions**

It is important that there is an open conversation between parents and school to ensure that the children are given the best provision possible. We would like to gain views and opinions from you to inform how the school's Relationship and Sex Education Curriculum will be taught. We encourage any feedback and suggestions which could be reflected in our policy, as well as any questions that you, as parents, may have about the new guidance or coverage.

To help you understand the curriculum requirements, we have set up a dedicated section on our website. This can be found in the 'Curriculum' section under the tab, RSHE. Within this tab will be various documents, including:

- Our draft RSHE policy March 2021, including all of the new government requirements;
- A document, outlining frequently asked questions for parents;
- A parent guide, provided by the Department for Education.

If you would like to make any comments or have any suggestions for consideration, could I please ask you to send them via email to [enquiries@pilgrimacademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@pilgrimacademy.co.uk) (could you please put RSHE as the subject heading). Could I please ask you to do this by **Friday 16 April 2021**.

If you have any general questions or would like to discuss any matter, please contact your child's teacher or Miss Stamford, Curriculum Leader for PSHE or myself at the Academy.

Yours faithfully



Mr A J Clark  
Principal