

St Mary's CE Primary School Rawtenstall

Headteacher: Mr N Gurman

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Tuesday 22nd June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware, from September 2021 the Department for Education is making Relationships and Health Education (Primary) compulsory in all schools. To ensure that we further promote the personal wellbeing and development of all students whilst meeting new statutory requirements we have worked hard to integrate any proposed changes in our Relationships and Health Education policy and curriculum content. For clarification and reassurance at St Mary's CE primary school we have always taught the majority of the statutory requirements as part of our broad and rich curriculum over many years.

The reasons provided by the DFE for these statutory changes were provided by Damian Hinds (Education Secretary in 2019)

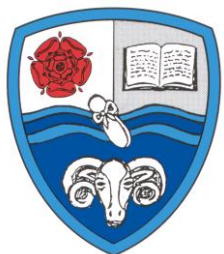
"This compulsory subject has been introduced to help to keep children safe; prepare them for the world in which they are growing up, including the laws as they relate to relationships, sex and health; to help foster respect for others and for difference."

In the table below I have outlined what the statutory changes are for primary schools on a national level. Within the documentation provided we have also colour coded in red the sex education curriculum we are intending to teach in each year group.

Please be aware parents have the right to withdraw their child from the sex education curriculum except for areas which are taught in the Science National Curriculum. I have also included the statutory science areas for your reference. We would strongly encourage all parents to complete the parent questionnaire.

Relationships Education	Health Education
Families and people who care for me	Mental Wellbeing
Caring friendships	Internet safety and harms
Respectful relationships	Physical health and fitness
Online relationships	Healthy eating
Being safe	Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
Non-mandatory Sex Education – children will have the 'right to be excused'	Health and prevention
	Basic first aid
	Changing adolescent body, including puberty





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Science National Curriculum

Year 5 programme of study

Living things and their habitats

Pupils should be taught to:

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals

Year 6 programme of study

Evolution and inheritance

Pupils should be taught to:

- recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago
- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
- identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution

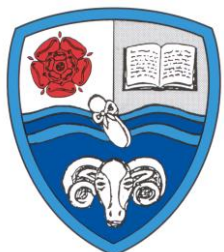
At St Mary's our curriculum aim is to provide students with meaningful learning experiences that will equip them with the skills required to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. Our proposed curriculum and learning outcomes draw as relevant on the application of skills and knowledge identified in the Department for Education guidance and legislation, while ensuring a fluid and exciting learning journey for all.

To introduce parents to all proposed changes and ensure everyone is well informed we would like to invite you to read the following key documents:

- Relationships Health Education curriculum map for each year group
- Relationships vocabulary to be used in each year group

All of these documents are available on our school website along with a range of other useful resources which we feel will provide you with a better insight of statutory changes. Listed resources which you may access and read include:





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- The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory Guidance
- Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your Child's Primary School: A Guide for parents.

Please follow the web link provided:

<https://www.stmaryscep.org.uk/page/?title=RELATIONSHIPS%2C+HEALTH+AND+SEX+EDUCATION&pid=51>

Our intention was to also conduct a parent consultation in person and share key information. However in light of the Covid 19 pandemic we have provided you with a 'Relationships, Health Education Questionnaire.

Please could this be completed and returned to school by **Monday 5th July 2021**. As always your input and views are greatly valued and we strongly encourage all parents to provide your feedback and views.

Should you have any urgent queries you may email these to: head@rawtenstall-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk where I will respond to these.

Your curriculum queries, opinions, and any contributions will enable us to further develop and shape our bespoke Relationships, Sex, Health Education curriculum offer but will also enable us to continue to work in partnership to meet the needs of all children.

We look forward to receiving your feedback and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Gurman

Headteacher

