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Thursday 4th May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Jigsaw Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum

We would like to say thank you to those parents and carers who attended one of the four recent information sessions about how we teach PSHE and RSE here at Hazel Leys. I hope you found the detailed presentation and the opportunity to look through all the resources helpful.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the statutory requirements placed on schools, and what we plan to teach for this topic in PSHE this term.

As shown, we use Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, as our scheme of work to teach PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education). The programme consists of 6 half-term units, each with 6 lessons. We call these Jigsaw 'Puzzles'. (Being Me in My World, Celebrating Difference, Dreams and Goals, Healthy Me, Relationships and Changing Me).

In the first half of the Summer Term we teach the Relationships Topic. Relationships Education is statutory (DfE Guidance 2019) and parents cannot withdraw their children from it.

In the second half of the Summer Term we will be teaching the 'Changing Me' Puzzle. This helps children learn to cope positively with all sorts of change. In Key Stage 2 they will learn about puberty in this Puzzle. In Key Stage 1 we introduce scientific terminology for body parts, including genitalia, partly for safeguarding reasons and partly to lay the foundations for learning about puberty later. Please see the attached document for a detailed overview of the lessons that will be taught from the beginning of Summer 2.

What will my child be taught about puberty and human reproduction?

The Jigsaw unit 'Changing Me' is taught in the Summer Term and contains 6 pieces (lessons). Each year group will be taught appropriate to their age and developmental stage. This content will be taught by the class teachers and assistants. We will not teach beyond the remit of the year group. If questions are asked that the teacher feels are inappropriate or are beyond the content for that year group, the teacher may ask the child to ask their parent/carer, or the teacher may acknowledge the question and explain that we will learn about that aspect at another time. At Hazel Leys Academy, we believe children should understand the facts about human reproduction before they leave primary school and so this is taught through both our PSHE and Science curriculum. We define Sex Education as, understanding human reproduction.

The right to withdraw

As parents you have the right to withdraw your child from the non-statutory elements of our teaching. These will be the lessons on human reproduction (please refer to the attached document for the exact lessons). You are unable to withdraw your child from any lessons within Relationship or Health Education (this includes puberty and menstruation).

If you do wish to withdraw your child from the human reproduction lessons, please contact Beverley Trotman – Principal outlining exactly which session you would like to withdraw your child from by completing the request form which is attached to this letter, so we can discuss the implications of withdrawing.

Year 4, Lesson 2 (Having a baby)

Year 5, Lesson 4 (Conception)

Year 6, Lesson 4 (Conception, birth)

We are eager to work in partnership with parents

Please be aware that your child may ask you questions on what they have learnt and we hope that the information we have provided is useful in understanding what your child will be learning this term. Please also note that we do not have any control over any discussions on the playground following the sessions and would suggest that allowing the children to engage with the sessions will be the preferred way to learn.

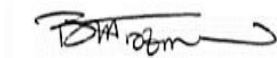
The DfE have produced a leaflet for parents “understanding relationship and health education in your child’s school: primary” <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-healtheducation-guides-for-schools>

Please also refer to our PSHE policy on our school website for further information.

If you have any further questions, please contact your child’s teacher or me via the office.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Trotman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs B Trotman
Principal

Parental Form:
Withdrawal from sex education within RSE

Parents Request to withdraw their child from the non-statutory/non-science aspects of the curriculum.

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/CARER				
Name of child		Class		Child's D.O.B
Name of parent		Date		
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education (RSE)				
Any other information you would like the school to consider.				
Parental signature				

TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents.	
School signature and date	