



21 November 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Foundation Stage - PSHE

PSHE, or Personal, Social and Health Education, allows students to find out about and discuss a range of topics which impact on their lives and futures. It is delivered in a combination of ways, including the extended tutor period, the wider pastoral programme and within the core Humanities curriculum.

One key element of PSHE is Sex and Relationships Education (SRE), which is taught in the context of developing positive values and a moral framework that will help guide students in their future judgements and decisions. We aim to teach an awareness and respect of all human sexuality, as well as exploring reasons, consequences and responsibilities associated with sexual activity and behaviour.

As part of this ongoing education, we will be exploring the following topics in your son's/daughter's Religious Studies (or Purple Pathway) lessons.

Year 7

- *Why does it all change?* Puberty
- *What makes me, me?* Gender and Sexuality
- *What is extremism?* Extremism

Year 8

- *What is 'normal'?* Sexual Characteristics
- *Sexual Images & Pornography.* This lesson looks at the consequences of sexting, alongside promoting an awareness of the unhealthy and unrealistic expectations the media can give young people.
- *What is FGM all about?* Raising awareness and understanding what to do if a student suspects a friend is vulnerable to FGM.

Delivery of these themes will run in line with our Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) and Equality Policies, both of which can be found on the website.

Governors recognise the important of all students' participation in SRE. A parent may, however, exercise a right of withdrawal from these lessons if the content is not part of the national curriculum (Section 405 of the Education Act 1996). Should you wish to withdraw your child from SRE you should inform the Headteacher in writing. If your child is withdrawn we will provide your child with appropriate work while they are being supervised. We also may invite you to meet with Mrs Karen James, (Pastoral Leader) who will explain the school's policy and discuss your concerns with you.

If you have any questions about the course, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Johnson
Deputy Headteacher