

HUNTON & ARRATHORNE C P SCHOOL

HUNTON BEDALE NORTH YORKSHIRE DL8 1QB

Tel/Fax: 01677 450342

www.huntonarrathorne.n-yorks.sch.uk

admin@huntonarrathorne.n-yorks.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs J Grainger



Caring - Aspiring - Excelling

Monday 8th June 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

As a school, we are committed to providing all pupils with a planned Personal, Social, Health, Education (PSHE) programme to enable them to acquire the knowledge, understanding, skills and strategies they need to develop an understanding of themselves, empathy and the ability to work with others to help pupils form and maintain good relationships, develop the essential skills for future employability and better enjoy and manage their lives. A full outline of our PSHE curriculum is published on our school website www.huntonarrathorne.n-yorks.sch.uk

The Government have made Relationships Education and Health Education statutory for all schools from September 2020 but they are encouraging all schools to adopt the new learning outcomes as early as possible so we have already integrating the statutory requirements into our planned PSHE curriculum and other supporting curriculum opportunities.

The Government have produced some information leaflets for parents to explain what the new curriculum consists of and is trying to achieve. These can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-health-education-guides-for-schools> A copy is attached to this letter.

As part of the schools planned programme we teach pupils about, 'Me and My Relationships' which covers aspects of Relationships Education and Relationships and Sex Education. The aim is to ensure pupils learn about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, healthy relationships and keeping themselves safe both on and offline. Key aspects of this curriculum area also include:

- Year 1 being taught the names for different body parts.
- Year 1 / 2 / 3's are taught about what physical contact is acceptable or unacceptable. This is vital to support the work we do in keeping all pupils safe. Pupils need to have the language to describe the private parts of their body and learn that their body belongs to them, they have a right to say no both on and offline (consent), and that they should tell an adult if they're upset or worried. To support us in delivering this message to the pupils we use information from the NSPCC Underwear Rule campaign. You can find out more at <http://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- In Year 4 pupils start to learn that their body and emotions will change as they get older and continue to build on learning about the key components of a

healthy relationship and how to keep themselves safe both on and off line. This learning continues in Year 5 and 6

- In Year 5 and 6 pupils learn about all the external and internal genitalia and the ways in which children grow and develop in puberty both physically and emotionally. They develop their understanding of the physical and emotional changes they go through at puberty. We use resources from the Irish Health Board https://www.healthpromotion.ie/health/inner/busy_bodies These include: What Happens During Puberty; How Boys' Bodies Develop and Grow during Puberty; How Girls' Bodies Grow and Develop, Including Menstruation; Enjoying Growing Up.
- Throughout all year groups pupils learn about, 'Different Families' which does include lesbian, gay and bisexual couples and there is also work on gender identity which includes information about trans children and young people.

Teaching staff approach this aspect of the curriculum very sensitively and are aware of how it contributes to pupils development supporting them to develop healthy relationships, keep themselves safe and having factually correct information and the skills to positively manage the physical and emotional changes that will happen as they grow into hopefully happy, confident and responsible teenagers.

Parents and carers also play a vital role in talking to your child about this important part of growing up and keeping themselves safe. To help you understand the type of questions children of different ages may ask and how to best respond to them further information can be obtained from the family planning association website – parent/carers section at <https://www.fpa.org.uk/help-mums-dads-and-carers>

Some aspects of this curriculum are delivered through the National Curriculum Science and some through the PSHE curriculum. Until September 2020, Parents/carers do have the right to withdraw your child from the relationships education curriculum but we would ask that you contact me to further discuss any questions you may have. From September 2020 parents will be unable to withdraw children from the Relationships Education and Health Education.

If you would like to see the school's Relationships and Sex education policy, any of the teaching resources or have any further questions about this aspect of the curriculum please can you contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Grainger

(Headteacher)



Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school: a guide for parents

We want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe, and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. That is why, from September 2020, all primary age children will be taught Relationships and Health Education.

These subjects are designed to equip your child with knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as preparing them for a successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when this curriculum was last updated – these changes bring the content into the 21st century, so that it is relevant for your child.

Your child's school will have flexibility to deliver the content in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate and sensitive to the needs and religious background of its pupils.

Relationships Education

Relationships Education will put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships, including with family, friends and online.

Your child will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them. In an age-appropriate way, your child's school will cover how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect.

By the end of primary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- families and people who care for me
- caring friendships
- respectful relationships
- online relationships
- being safe

You can find further detail by searching '**relationships and health education**' on GOV.UK.

Health Education

Health Education aims to give your child the information they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, to recognise issues in themselves and others, and to seek support as early as possible when issues arise.



By the end of primary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- mental wellbeing
- internet safety and harms
- physical health and fitness
- healthy eating
- facts and risks associated with drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- health and prevention
- basic first aid
- changing adolescent body

You can find further detail by searching '**relationships and health education**' on GOV.UK.

Your rights as a parent

The important lessons you teach your child about healthy relationships, looking after themselves and staying safe, are respected and valued under this new curriculum. Teaching at school will complement and reinforce the lessons you teach your child as they grow up.

Your child's school is required to consult with you when developing and renewing their policies on Relationships Education. These policies must be published online and be available to anybody free of charge.

You can express your opinion, and this will help your child's school decide how and when to cover the content of the statutory guidance. It may also help them decide whether to teach additional non-statutory content. Schools are required to ensure their teaching reflects the age and religious background of their pupils.

Some schools will start to teach these subjects from September 2019 – if you'd like to know more, please speak to your child's school about what they plan to teach.



Right to withdraw your child

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

Your child's primary school can choose to teach Sex Education. If you'd like to know more about this, we recommend speaking to the school to understand what will be taught and when. If you do not want your child to take part in some or all of the lessons on Sex Education, you can ask that they are withdrawn. At primary level, the head teacher must grant this request.

The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.



Department
for Education

If you want to know more about what will be taught as part of the new subjects, the best thing to do is speak to your child's school.