



Ashford Park Primary School

'Inspiring a love for lifelong learning'

26th April 2024

Information about this term's Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education, which includes Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)

Dear Parents / Carers,

At Ashford Park Primary School, we use Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, as our scheme of work to teach PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education). The programme consists of 6 half-term units, each with six lessons. We call these Jigsaw 'Puzzles':

- Being Me in My World
- Celebrating Difference
- Dreams and Goals
- Healthy Me
- Relationships and Changing Me

Relationships Education

In the first half of the Summer Term, we will be teaching the relationships topic. Relationships Education is statutory (DfE Guidance 2019) and parents cannot withdraw their children from it.

We develop positive relationships throughout the school year and through each Jigsaw Puzzle, but there is a more specific focus on this in this unit of work, with children learning about different relationships we have with our friends, family and communities (including staying safe online), and how these relationships change as we grow.

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 Two they will learn about puberty in this puzzle. In Key Stage One we introduce scientific terminology for body parts, including genitalia, partly for safeguarding reasons and partly to lay the foundations for learning about puberty later on.

Sex Education

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p.23) recommends that all primary schools "have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science – how a baby is conceived and born."

Headteacher: Mr Peter Boulton

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At Ashford Park Primary School, we define sex education as understanding human reproduction. We believe children should understand the facts about human reproduction before they leave primary school and intend to teach this as part of the Jigsaw PSHE curriculum.

Parents' right to request their child to be excused from Sex Education

"Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory Relationships and Sex Education" DfE Guidance 2019 (p.17). At Ashford Park Primary School, parents and carers have the right to request their child be withdrawn from the PSHE lessons that explicitly teach human reproduction. These are the following lessons in the Jigsaw Changing Me Puzzle (unit):

- Year 4, Lesson 2 (Having a baby))
- Year 5, Lesson 4 (Conception)
- Year 6, Lesson 3 (Conception to birth)

If a parent or carer chooses to request for their child to be exempt from these specific lessons, they are asked to follow the procedures set out on the [concerns and complaints procedures page of the APPS website](#).

So that you can make an informed decision about your child's education, we would like to invite you to attend a session in school where we will give you a transparent and comprehensive picture of what we are planning to teach in each year group.

Date: Wednesday 8th May 2024 Time: 3.30pm in the hall

Yours sincerely,

The PSHE Team

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