



Kemnal Technology College

22 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

At Kemnal Technology College, we believe Personal, Social, Health and Economics education (PSHE) is the foundation of a child's learning. It helps give children the skills and understanding they need to be morally good, healthy and independent citizens. In addition, we provide our children the opportunity to learn about their rights and understand how their actions affect others by offering a Rights Respecting ethos; which encompasses experience of diversity and our changing society. PSHE is also integrated throughout our bespoke curriculum. Our children are encouraged to develop their self-worth by playing a positive role in contributing to school life and the wider community.

I am writing to let you know that, over the next few terms your child's class will be taking part in lessons which will focus on the relationships and sex education (RSE) aspect of this programme.

The aims of relationships sex and health education (RSE) at our school are to:

- ❖ Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- ❖ Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- ❖ Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- ❖ Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- ❖ Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- ❖ Part of the RSE programme will see students having lessons on Female Genital Mutilation, (FGM). Students will be taught that FGM is illegal in the UK and that it is also a criminal offence to take a UK citizen abroad for the purpose of FGM (whether or not it is lawful in the country the girl is taken to).

Although The Relationships Education, Relationship & Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 made Relationship Education compulsory, parents have the right to withdraw their children from the [non-statutory/non-science] components of sex education within RSHE. Therefore, if you wish for your child not to take part in these lessons please can you complete the attached **Parent Form: Withdrawal From: Sex Education Within RSHE and return to the College by Friday 25th February 2022.**

We believe that sex education should allow children a safe space to ask the questions they may have without shame or judgement. Evidence states that a graduated age appropriate, spiral curriculum is the best way of preventing the topic of sex, reproduction and private body parts of becoming taboo and children from becoming embarrassed by the topic.

We believe it is important that this material is delivered by the classroom teacher in conjunction with parents/carers as it highlights to the children that relationship and sex education is something we can all talk about. For the majority of the programme, we do not separate our classes into girls and boys, as we believe it is important for both girls and boys to learn about each other's bodies, changes and experiences. By keeping children together in mixed groups, children will learn to talk openly without embarrassment in front of each other and we can foster a better understanding, break down gender stereotypes and build positive relationships and respect for each other, regardless of gender. However, for part of some lessons, boys and girls are separated to ask specific questions regarding their gender to avoid embarrassment.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year

Yours faithfully

T Cornish
Deputy Headteacher

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