



## **Consultation: St Osmund's Middle School community working together in Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)**

As Early Adopters of the new statutory Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum for 2020, we undertook a comprehensive consultation process involving students and parents, to ensure learners and families were at the heart of establishing a new curriculum.

### **Student Survey**

Early in the autumn term of 2019, Year 8 students were asked to complete an anonymous RSE survey, which asked them for their views on which topics they felt were most relevant to them in RSE. Their responses revealed the topics as listed below were really important to students:

- changes in puberty
- sexuality and identity
- how to tell if a relationship is healthy
- LGBTQ+ related issues
- Consent
- Contraception
- medically correct names for body parts
- marriage and other committed relationships
- cyberbullying (including 'sexting').

### **Parental consultation**

A parental consultation evening was held in September 2019. Parents and carers were invited to an open forum to find out more about RSE curriculum content for primary and secondary age education, and government guidelines for the statutory aspects of RSE curriculum. The evening included a presentation on how RSE topics relate to students at St Osmund's in terms of

- age
- physical and emotional maturity
- religious and cultural backgrounds
- special educational needs and disabilities.

The evening also provided a valuable opportunity to share opinions and ideas, and to discuss questions raised by parents and carers.

### **Online Information**

For accessible information, a video presentation was made available on the school's YouTube channel

### **Online Survey**

To engage parents and carers further in the consultation process, an online survey was created, consisting of the following questions:

1. *Has your child ever talked to you about something they learned at school to do with growing up, sex and relationships?*
2. *Does your child ask you about growing up, sex and relationships?*

3. Was your own experience of Relationships and Sex Education at school helpful and informative?
4. After watching the PowerPoint presentation on Relationships (KS2) and Relationships and Sex (KS3) Education on the school YouTube Channel, would you like further information about what is taught in these lessons?
5. Are you aware that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) identity and relationships are part of Relationships education?
6. Are you aware that the Church of England's publication 'Valuing All God's Children' provides guidance for Church of England schools on challenging homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying, and that there is a copy of this publication on our school website?
7. There will be a Knowledge Organiser for the Relationships and Sex education topics that will provide key vocabulary and information for your child. These will be published on the school website and on the SIMs Parent app. Will you feel comfortable talking and listening to your child about what they are learning in RSE?
8. Would you be willing to take part in a parental focus group (numbers limited) in order to contribute to the consultation process for our new Relationships and Sex Education policy which is currently being developed? If 'yes', please email your name, child's year group and class to: [srefocus@stosmunds.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:srefocus@stosmunds.dorset.sch.uk)
9. Relationships and Sex Education aims to include and inform all students on aspects of healthy, safe, fulfilling relationships and to prepare young people for growing up. Which three topics (single words only) do you consider important for your child to learn about in Relationship and Sex Education?

Topics included:

- Safety
- Relationships
- Consent
- Sexuality
- Communication
- Pornography and online porn for a younger age range
- Respects
- Healthy relationships
- Emotions
- Love
- Social media
- Safe sex
- Peer pressure
- Being kind and respecting others
- Body image
- Independence
- Puberty
- Contraception
- Body awareness
- Health
- LGBT
- Money
- Consequences
- Teenage relationships
- Development

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