

DRAFT

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Department for Education (DfE) has made changes to Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) following nationwide consultation, which came into effect from September 2020. Consequently, from Summer 2021, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, will be statutory, and form part of the National Curriculum. All schools are required to comply with the updated requirements. The guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships.

The teaching of Sex Education in primary schools remains non-statutory. As an infant school, our focus is on Relationship Education. As a part of your child's education at Crofton Hammond Infant School, we already embrace and promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive programme of Personal Development Learning (PDL) education. This aims to give our children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. RSE embodies lifelong learning about personal, physical, moral and emotional development and so at Crofton Hammond Infant School RSE is taught primarily within our Personal Development Learning (PDL) curriculum. In addition, we teach some aspects through the science curriculum.

As part of the KS1 statutory science national curriculum we teach children to identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body (including the correct anatomical terms: penis and vagina) and say which part of the body is associated with each sense. Children in Year 2 also understand that animals, including humans, have babies that grow into adults.

Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE. There is, however, no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education. As there is no teaching of sex education within the KS1 RSE curriculum, and our policy focuses on Relationships Education, there is no right to withdraw from any part of our RSE or science curriculum.

Our Early Year's curriculum remains the same and in the Foundation Stage Personal, Social and Emotional development is planned for based on the Foundation Stage Curriculum and is delivered through Child Initiated Learning as well as through key person time.

As a school community, we are fully committed to working in partnership with parents. I am writing to inform you of the changes to our PDL curriculum, to incorporate the new statutory RSE guidance. We also invite you to consult on our

DRAFT

school's draft RSE policy. Please submit your feedback to: j.syms@croftonhammond-inf.hants.sch.uk by **31 March 2021**. The PDL lead teachers will hold an online consultation opportunity on the morning of 29th April via Teams. Please contact the office for a code to join this session.

The Consultation Questions are as follows:

- 1) Would you like advice about how to speak to your child about relationships?
- 2) Would you like advice on how to speak to your child about aspects of the RSE which relate to the science curriculum? For example, identifying and labelling part of the body.
- 3) Are there any changes or additions that you think could be made to the RSE Policy?
- 4) Are there any changes or additions that you think could be made to the RSE Curriculum Outline?
- 5) Would you like a list of age appropriate books that support the PDL curriculum?

PDL education is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body. Please visit the school's website for more detail about our PDL policy. All PDL teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values.

The DfE Relationships, Sex and Health Education: guides for parents can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-health-education-guides-for-schools>

Yours sincerely,

Julie Syms/Anna Philipson
PDL/RSE lead