



CLEE HILL COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Head Teacher:

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Sex and Relationships Education

Dear Parent / Carer,

At Clee Hill Community Academy 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. This includes Relationship and Sex Education.

The Government made Relationships Education and Health Education statutory for all schools from September 2020 and produced some information leaflets for parents to explain what the curriculum consists of and is trying to achieve. To view these resources, please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

As part of the school's PSHE programme, children learn about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, healthy relationships and keeping themselves safe both on and offline. As they progress through primary school, they will cover the following aspects of Relationships Education and Relationships and Sex Education.

- Pupils in all year groups from Reception to Year 6 are taught that some body parts are private and that their body belongs to them.
- Pupils in all year groups are taught about what physical contact is acceptable or unacceptable and that they have a right to say no both on and offline (consent). They are taught that they should tell an adult if they are worried. This is vital to support the work we do in keeping all pupils safe. 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 <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>
- In Year 5 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 6
- In Year 5 pupils learn about all the external and internal genitalia and the ways in which children grow and develop in puberty both physically and emotionally.
- In Year 6 pupils further develop their understanding of the physical and emotional changes they go through at puberty and about human reproduction.

- As part of the statutory curriculum, in all year groups pupils learn about, diversity within and between families which includes lesbian, gay and bisexual couples. 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 pupil's 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 their child(ren) 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/for-parents/>

Some aspects of this curriculum are delivered through the National Curriculum for Science and some through the PSHE/RSHE curriculum. Since September 2020, parents are unable to withdraw children from the Relationships Education and Health Education. At Clee Hill Community Academy, we teach specific Sex Education lessons in Years 5 and 6, and provide parents with the information they require in advance to make the decision over whether they wish to withdraw their children from lessons. We will provide parents the opportunity to review the resources prior to teaching the lessons in order to help them to make an informed decision.

The school follows the PSHE Association as a scheme to teach RSE. We do not teach the RSE until Year 5. Material on the PSHE Association for Year 4/5 is taught to Year 5 pupils at Clee Hill. The PSHE Association have published a copy of the materials which will be shared with pupils in RSE and these materials can be found on the school website under RSHE lesson coverage information for parents. It also includes information about the RSHE scheme and how this will be taught (ie using question boxes, setting ground rules up beforehand etc)

<https://chcademy.co.uk/curriculum/curriculum-subject-pages/rshe>

Although parents/carers have the right to request to withdraw their child from any or all of sex education as part of Relationships Education, it is our aim to encourage parents to see the value of RSE learning and its contribution to keeping children safe, developing their emotional, social and physical wellbeing and for promoting equality and social justice.

Should a parent decide that they do not wish their child to take part in any of the Year 5 or 6 sex education lessons, we would ask that they first speak to the headteacher to discuss their concerns. The headteacher will discuss the request with the parent/carer to fully understand and address any concerns/objections to the content of the curriculum. If parents/carers do decide to withdraw their child, they should inform the headteacher in writing and the school will keep a record of this. Children who are withdrawn from RSE will work with the Year 4 pupils in class 4.

RSHE lessons will take part in the summer term from Monday 10th June onwards. Any parents wishing to withdraw their child from these sessions should inform the school before Monday 10th June. If parents would like to discuss the content of the lessons beforehand, please arrange to meet with either Mrs Richardson or myself as we will be delivering the sessions.

Many Thanks,

