



Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware that, as part of your child's educational experience at Ightenhill Primary School, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education. We believe this gives our young people the knowledge, understanding attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives both now and in the future.

You may be aware that there are some statutory changes being brought in for the teaching of Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) in schools.

“The Department for Education is introducing compulsory Relationship Education for primary pupils and Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) for secondary pupils from September 2020. Also from September 2020, it will be compulsory for all schools to teach Health Education.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationship Education at primary or secondary as we believe the contents of these subjects- such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety)-are important for all children to be taught.” (DFE)

As a result of these changes, we have been updating our policies and looking at our schemes of work in school. The new requirements formalise expectations but do not make significant changes to what we teach our pupils. Many of the topics required by the DFE were already taught as part of our PSHE curriculum and in other subjects.

The new guidance for primary school focuses on healthy relationships and keeping safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships.

Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up will give young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe fulfilling relationships and will help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

We have worked hard to ensure our new curriculum reflects:

- Our values of equality, inclusion and respect for all students and communities.
- Our students' age and maturity levels as well as their cultural and religious backgrounds.
- Every student's learning needs.

- What children need to know to be healthy and safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider world.

Our lessons will continue to be delivered in the same way as always. All teaching will take place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. A variety of opportunities will be provided for pupils to ask questions to further their understanding and find out more about what affects them personally. Our proposed scheme will be taught throughout school and in every year group. The staff and governing body will review it regularly.

As part of the review we would like to share with parents and carers our draft policy and scheme of work. This is to give parents and carers a consultation period between 15/12/2020 – 28/12/2020 to look at the policy and materials and share their views and opinions about these.

Draft policies and content for RSE can be found on our website at www.ighthenhill.lancs.sch.uk . If you would like to receive a paper copy of these documents, please contact the school office.

We always welcome parent's feedback during these consultation periods and any comments, views and opinions will be reflected upon to reach final decisions about the curriculum content. We understand that parents and carers opinions and views may differ and we ask that parents and carers engage in open, constructive and respectful dialogue about these at all times.

The school has a duty to ensure we follow statutory guidelines set out by the DFE in addition to parents and carer views when making decisions.

If you would like to provide feedback on our draft, policy and scheme of work please email Inclusion@ighthenhill.lancs.sch.uk . Alternatively, please provide your comments in an envelope for the attention of Mrs. M Lewis. The closing date for feedback is 03/01/2021.

Yours Sincerely,

M A Lewis

Mrs M Lewis

Inclusion Manager