

Wednesday 17th April 2024

Response to Parent Consultation on RSE Policy

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of the review of our RSE Policy, we consulted with parents in the form of a questionnaire. We would like to thank all of you who contributed. Your responses are valued and appreciated.

Below is a response to parent comments about the policy.

Parent Comment	Response
What topics are we covering?	<p>The long-term plan available on the school website gives an overview of all the topics covered through PSHE and RSE for each year group.</p> <p>Medium term planning can be found on the school website under the PSHE section in Curriculum and includes details of what will be taught and when.</p>
What is taught in regards to sexuality?	<p>Sexuality is not taught at KS1 (Infant). Sexuality and Sex are only taught at KS2 (Junior).</p> <p><i>'It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health which is taught at Key Stage 2 and beyond. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity. (DfES 2000).'</i> Hamstel Infant School and Nursery RSE Policy</p> <p>Sexuality is only referred to during a Year 1 lesson in Families and Friendships. During this lesson the children are taught about what it means to be a family and the different types of families including those with single parents, same-sex parents and married parents.</p>
I don't think it's appropriate for my child to be taught about sex, genitals and reproduction?	<p>Sex and reproduction are not taught at KS1 (Infant):</p> <p><i>'It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health which is taught at Key Stage 2 and beyond. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity. (DfES 2000).'</i> Hamstel Infant School and Nursery RSE Policy</p> <p>The names of external body parts are taught in Year 1 and Year 2, these include penis, testicles, vulva, vagina and the difference between boys and girls. The children will be taught that these parts of the body are private body parts and are usually covered by underwear. The children are taught the NSPCC PANTS rules – Private parts are private, Always remember your body belongs to you, No means no, Talk about secrets that upset you, Speak up, someone can help.</p> <p>Genitals, like other body parts, are healthy, good and essential to our physical well-being. We describe them as private because they are generally off-limits to others, we keep them covered. Many families don't use the correct names. We should promote the practice of using the correct medical terms when referring to private parts.</p> <p>Research shows that while 89% of children know the names for their non-genital body parts, only 10% know the correct names for genitalia. There is general consensus from clinicians that using the correct names enhances children's body image, confidence and openness.</p> <p>We feel it is important that children know the correct names so that they have a clear understanding of their own body and how to keep it safe. In the event of a child being touched inappropriately, children will have the correct vocabulary to describe what has happened. Learning the correct vocabulary prevents misconception and misunderstanding.</p>



Parent Comment	Response
I would like to see the materials and resources that will be used when teaching RSE.	<p>Long and medium term planning will be available on the school website. All resources can be viewed upon request to the class teacher.</p> <p>Prior to lessons about external body parts, parents will be advised during the week before that the lesson will be taught and the content of the lesson will be explained. This will allow parents/carers to be prepared for questions children may ask at home.</p>

As always, if you have any further questions, concerns or comments to make about the RSE curriculum, please contact the school office.

Kind regards,

Mrs V Bryant
Assistant Principal
PSHE lead

