



Friars Primary School & Nursery

Part of the Portico Academy Trust

Principal - Mr C. McClay

Vice Principal – Mr S. Roche

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CEO – Mrs C. Woolf

Wednesday 19th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 6,

Relationships and Sex Education

As you may recall, back in the autumn term, we shared the proposed curriculum for our Relationships and Sex Education. Following consultation with children, staff, parents, carers and Portico trustees, this curriculum has now been adopted and after the half term we will see the start of these sessions.

This curriculum has been designed in partnership with the PSHE Association and is used widely across not only the other Portico schools, but by many other primary schools in the country. We understand that some parents may find the content of these lessons a little sensitive but we do feel that there is great value to the children being taught properly about these subjects rather than getting a false idea via older peers, the internet or social media.

We are also letting you know that this content will be taught soon, to allow you to be prepared for any questions your child may ask at home.

For Year 6, the content includes;

Topic	In this unit of work, students learn...
Respecting ourselves and others Expressing opinions and respecting other points of view, including discussing topical issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about the link between values and behaviour and how to be a positive role model • how to discuss issues respectfully • how to listen to and respect other points of view • how to constructively challenge points of view they disagree with • ways to participate effectively in discussions online and manage conflict or disagreements
Families and friendships Attraction to others; romantic relationships; civil partnership and marriage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what it means to be attracted to someone and different kinds of loving relationships • that people who love each other can be of any gender, ethnicity or faith • about the qualities of healthy relationships that help individuals flourish • ways in which couples show their love and commitment to one another, including those who are not married or who live apart • what marriage and civil partnership mean e.g. a legal declaration of commitment made by two adults • that people have the right to choose whom they marry or whether to get married • that to force anyone into marriage is illegal • how and where to report forced marriage or ask for help if they are worried
Safe relationships Consent in different situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to compare the features of a healthy and unhealthy friendship • what consent means and how to seek and give/not give permission in different situations
Growing and changing Human reproduction and birth; increasing independence; managing transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to recognise some of the changes as they grow up e.g. increasing independence • about what being more independent might be like, including how it may feel • about the transition to secondary school and how this may affect their feelings • about how relationships may change as they grow up or move to secondary school • practical strategies that can help to manage times of change and transition e.g. practising the bus route to secondary school • identify the links between love, committed relationships and conception • what sexual intercourse is, and how it can be one part of an intimate relationship between consenting adults • how pregnancy occurs i.e. when a sperm meets an egg and the fertilised egg settles into the lining of the womb • that pregnancy can be prevented with contraception • about the responsibilities of being a parent or carer and how having a baby changes someone's life

Please rest assured that all lessons of this nature are conducted in an age appropriate manner, using specially designed, child friendly resources.

We hope you feel happy knowing that we take the teaching of RSE very seriously at Friars in order to prepare our young people for life in modern Britain. However, should you have any questions about these lessons or the content please raise these with the class teachers via the year6@friars.southend.sch.uk email address.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Roche
Vice Principal