

6th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

As a part of your child's education at Wexham School, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

I am writing to let you know that over the next 7 weeks, starting Tuesday 11th January, your child in year 9 will be taking part in lessons which will focus on the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) aspect of this programme. RSE lessons in year 9 will include teaching about: the facts about reproductive health; that there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others; that they have a choice to delay sexual intercourse or to enjoy intimacy without sexual intercourse; the facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available; how the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing; about the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment; how to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment.

PSHE 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 [Wexham School - PSHEE](http://www.wexhamschool.co.uk) for more details about our PSHE curriculum. All PSHE teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values.

Due to changes to the PHSE Curriculum and government guidelines starting September 2020, you do have a right to withdraw your child from this sex education delivered as part of the RSE curriculum in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be granted up to three terms before your child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at secondary level and we believe the content of these subjects – such as puberty, family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught. However, we are confident you will share our enthusiasm for the successful implementation of the new PSHE curriculum, which we feel will benefit all of our students. We are looking forward to sharing further information in due course.

You are welcome to contact me to discuss the programme further.

Yours faithfully

Mr Paul Friar
Leader of PSHE