



Headteacher

Mrs Nicola O'Connell BA (Hons) MEd (Cantab)

3.6.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may know the teaching of Relationships Education and Health Education becomes statutory in all primary schools from September 2020. This is nothing new for schools and at Holtsmere End Infant School we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. This is the subject that gives children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

At Holtsmere we follow the Jigsaw PSHE scheme. This programme has been updated to fulfil all the requirements for the statutory Relationships and Health Education curriculum. PSHE is taught in each year group during a designated weekly lesson and these lessons include learning about the importance of families and belonging to different groups, forming positive friendships, the benefits of physical exercise and healthy eating, keeping safe, developing self-esteem and confidence and learning about how people change as they grow. Sex Education is not compulsory in primary schools and as we are an infant school we will not be teaching any aspect of sex education other than teaching the correct medical terms for parts of the body, which we believe is important for keeping children safe.

All PSHE lessons take place in a safe learning environment in line with our school ethos and values. The lessons involve mindfulness and time for reflection, circle times where all children have the chance to speak if they want to, games and practical activities. Children are given opportunities to ask questions and voice opinions. The subject is monitored regularly and staff tailor lessons to meet the individual needs of children in their class including those with SEND.

We are committed to working in partnership with parents and clearly parents play a vital role in helping children develop an understanding of what positive relationships are. Mrs Ripley, our PSHE Co-ordinator had planned to hold a meeting in school to discuss the policy and answer questions but unfortunately we are unable to do this at this time due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please find our draft policy attached. We would really appreciate it if you would take the time to read it.

If you then have any comments or questions please send them to

head@holtsmereinfants.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Ripley and I will reflect on any comments and answer any questions.

Thank you for your time.

Take care,

Mrs Nicola O'Connell

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