

4<sup>th</sup> July 2023



Dear Parents / Carers,

## RSE – Parent Consultation

As part of your child's education at Oasis Academy Shirley Park, we promote personal wellbeing and development through our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) curriculum. Given the changing world they are living through, especially with increased use of technology and social media (and the false information they are often exposed to) it is important our students possess accurate knowledge, understanding and skills to lead healthy, safe and productive lives.

You may be aware that the Department for Education announced changes to the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) part of PSHE for all primary and secondary schools in the UK. All schools are required to comply with the updated changes. The new guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding. Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up gives children the information and positive values to have safe and fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own wellbeing.

We have been reviewing our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum to make sure it is appropriate for our pupils based on their age and their maturity levels. We aim to make sure it is inclusive, prepares children for puberty and the changes they will experience, promotes positive relationships, and prepares children for adult life. All teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values as well as British values that champion an inclusive, respectful space to learn.

The mention of the words, 'Sex education' can create unnecessary anxiety for parents and carers and we want to reassure you that the focus of much RSE is broader than you might think, focussing largely on respectful relationships and making sure students feel confident, safe and comfortable manoeuvring through society. We are aware children become aware of sexual matters from an early age, especially with access to the media and the general attitudes they encounter from peers and society. This can lead to misconceptions and misunderstandings, which is why we aim to provide school based RSE to provide a structured programme matched to the ages and development stages of pupils.



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Lower and Middle School

Nursery to Year 3  
Lower School, 47-49 Stroud Green Way,  
Croydon, CR0 7BE

Year 4 to Year 6  
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The RSE programme we are developing can combat fear and clarify existing knowledge by providing accurate information. It can provide opportunities to discuss feelings, emotions and attitudes in a safe, non-threatening environment, and it can also help to create a natural, positive attitude towards sexuality and to develop the skills needed to manage relationships. By providing opportunities to exchange ideas, it can promote tolerance and understanding of others.

We recognise the importance of parental support and involvement to effectively carry this out and as such, we would like to invite you to take the opportunity to discuss this curriculum with us at the Academy on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 4:30pm in the Main Hall.**

Your views are very important to us, and any questions or comments are warmly welcomed. Once we have considered all feedback, the RSE Policy will be uploaded to our website.

Yours sincerely,

*A Arseculeratne*

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