

RSE Consultation Feedback:

Please find below the answers to questions raised during our recent RSE Consultation. Our RSE policy can be found in the 'Policies' and PSHE section of our website.

Can I withdraw my child from all RSE lessons?

No. The new Relationships Education and Health Education Curriculum is statutory, which means it must be taught to all children. Sex Education allows the right to withdraw, but at Parklands Primary School this aspect is limited to a few lessons in Year 6. Other aspects of teaching on relationships, differences between males and females, puberty, etc. fall under 'Relationships' and 'Health' and so parents have no right to withdraw. **Therefore any parent who exercises this right should know that their child will be taught all other lessons and removed only from these Year 6 Lesson.** The content of what children are taught each year is detailed in our policy.

If you have any wider queries about the DfE Guidance for primary schools, you should know that this is beyond the school's control.

Will parents be informed when lessons are to be taught?

Yes. Although some aspects of RSE are taught throughout the year (online safety in Computing lessons, for example) our targeted RSE sessions will take place in the **second half of the Summer terms.** A letter will go out informing parents of this in advance.

Is it too young to begin teaching children about puberty?

No. Although the average age to begin puberty is 11 for girls and 12 for boys, it is normal for it to begin any time from 8 to 14. Our programme of study introduces puberty in Year 4, **when children are 8-9 years old**, and we believe it is important they are prepared in advance for what is to come.

Is it possible for parents to see the resources for the lessons?

Yes. You will be informed before we begin teaching specific RSE content, and **invited in to view resources** should you wish to do so.

How often will students have RSE lessons?

Although some content is taught throughout the year in other subject areas (e.g. online safety in Computing, healthy living in Science), our targeted RSE teaching takes place **weekly through our PSHE/PSD lessons**

Is any part of the RSE Curriculum taught by outside providers?

No. Our RSE curriculum is taught by class teachers to the whole class (boys and girls may be separated for some content in Upper Key Stage 2 at the teacher's discretion).

Is any lesson content provided by external companies?

Yes. Our PSHE and RSE curriculum is taught through a programme called SCARF by Coram Life Education, a widely used resource by primary schools nationally.

Should children be taught the names of the private parts at such a young age?

Yes. At Parklands we believe that from Nursery, the children should be taught the correct names for the body parts. There are several reasons children should learn the proper terms for private parts instead of nicknames. Teaching children the anatomically correct names for private parts increases a **child's self-confidence and positive body image.** When adults are clear, unashamed and upfront about all parts of the body, this teaches the child that all parts of their body are important and no shame and stigma are attached to any part. Another is that **having the right language and context helps children communicate clearly about their bodies.** This is important in the context of telling a doctor or caregiver where something hurts or feels uncomfortable and also to know how to keep themselves safe.