

12 October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

'Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.'

Secretary of State for Education 13 September 2021.

Since September 2021, all schools in England have had a statutory obligation to teach Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). This subject is designed to equip children and young people with the knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as preparing them for a successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when this curriculum was last updated – these changes bring the content into the 21st century, so that it is relevant for your child.

Each school has been given flexibility to deliver the content in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate and sensitive to the needs of its pupils. At The Hayfield School, our curriculum covers content on what healthy and unhealthy relationships look like, for example what makes a good friend, colleague and successful marriage or committed relationship. At the appropriate time, the focus will move to developing intimate relationships, thereby equipping young people with knowledge they need to make safe, informed and healthy choices as they progress through adult life.

As with all areas of our work, we take this responsibility extremely seriously and have worked hard to make sure that our curriculum reflects:

- Our pupils' age and maturity levels
- The values of our school community
- What pupils need to know to be healthy and safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider world

Our policy is available on the school's website. If, having looked over it, there are questions and/or comments, please contact Ms Whetstone using the email address iwh@thehayfieldschool.co.uk.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Wilson
Deputy Headteacher

Ms J Whetstone
Associate Assistant Headteacher