



1st December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a part of your child's education at Somerdale Educate Together, we promote personal wellbeing and development through our Learn Together curriculum, which includes PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education). This gives our children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live a safe, healthy, productive life and for them to achieve their full potential. We are extremely proud of the fact that this child-centred approach to learning underpins everything we do at Somerdale Educate Together.

The Department for Education has updated the national Relationships and Health Education curriculum so that all children must be taught these subjects at school from this academic year. Much of this updated guidance was already part of our Learn Together curriculum and it aligns with our Educate Together ethos and values of being equality-based, co-educational, child centred and democratically run.

In order to make sure our curriculum not only fits with the statutory guidance, but also meets the needs of our school community, we have updated our Relationships, Sex and Health Education policy and are consulting parents, staff and pupils. We are keen to hear your feedback on our proposed changes to help in finalising our school policy. Your feedback will be taken into account, along with a range of other factors, to ensure that our curriculum meets the needs of our children. Please note, however, that although we have some flexibility on how it is taught, the content of the curriculum is largely statutory and cannot be changed substantially.

Please take a look at these attached documents for information on the proposed changes. These can all be found on the school website, including the questionnaire, at www.somerdaleet.org.uk :

- Draft Educate Together Relationships, Sex and Health Education policy (including our school curriculum based on the PSHE Association planning, the scheme recommended by the Department for Education)
- Department for Education answers to FAQs about RSE and Health Education
- Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school: a guide for parents from the Department for Education

Please respond to <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DBBBGXZ> with any feedback by Sunday 13th December. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to offer any face-to-face consultations, but parent information sessions for each year group will be held in early January 2021 via Zoom (dates to follow) to give more information about the specific curriculum content and resources used for your child's year group. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this consultation.

Kind regards,

Jessica Matthews
RSHE lead

