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Our Ref: GAT

Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Sex & Relationships Education

As you may be aware the government passed legislation requiring all schools to teach Relationships, Sex and Health Education. The new statutory requirements outline many aspects of Sex, Health and Relationships Education that I am sure we would all agree are absolutely crucial to young people growing up in modern Britain. For example, an understanding of what forms a healthy relationship, how to stay safe online and how to protect our mental health. An overview of what we teach when and our Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) policy are on our website.

Sex Education is the only part of the new curriculum from which parents can chose to withdraw their children. I would urge parents to consider this carefully. We certainly do not promote any particular type of relationship and it is important for students to be able to make informed decisions and understand how to stay safe. The policy outlines the process should you wish to withdraw your child. Children cannot be withdrawn from Relationships education which includes work around healthy relationships and consent, nor from work on protected characteristics such as understanding LGBTQ+, the risk of discrimination and how we can reduce and avoid prejudice and discrimination by understanding rights and responsibilities.

The government has produced parent guides to the new curriculum in multiple languages, these can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

In year 7 we will be beginning a module this week on puberty which is very much about building on what they learned in primary school along with looking at self-esteem, safeguarding issues and assertive consent. Some children will find this a sensitive topic and you may wish to discuss this with them beforehand. Next half term we will be covering the first Sex and Relationships topic which is age appropriate for year 7 – focusing on friendships, consent and boundaries, misogyny and peer pressure.

If you have any questions or would like to come into school and meet please contact me on gemma.tillotson@oldburyacademy.org.uk or call 0121 533 3750.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Gemma Tillotson
Assistant Headteacher