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Our Ref GAT

Tuesday 9th 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 and can be found here: [Policies – Oldbury Academy](#). Children cannot be withdrawn from relationships education which includes work around healthy relationships and consent, nor from work on protected characteristics such as understanding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 9 we are beginning a part of the curriculum focused on age appropriate relationships and sex education. It includes the following sessions; sexual consent & the law, FGM & the law, delaying sexual activity, why people might have sex, relationships & partners and an introduction to STI's. We will then move on to look at contraception and STIs in more detail along with sexual harassment and stalking. These sessions will be delivered by the form tutor and will establish ground rules at the beginning of lessons. We are also very clear on the laws around the age of consent in the UK. Our curriculum was developed based on feedback from parents and is age appropriate. It is important that young people are educated in the correct information in a safe environment rather than pick up information second hand from others or potentially put themselves at risk by exploring online.

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 01215333750.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Gemma Tillotson
Assistant Headteacher