



HAVERIGG PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Artsmark
Silver Award
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Council England



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Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware, schools are now required to teach a statutory Relationships and Sex education (RSE) and Health curriculum as part of a more comprehensive Personal, Social, Health education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential. We have not started to teach all aspects of the curriculum yet but have prioritised aspects of friendship following school closures. We will begin to teach the RSE curriculum in full from September 2021.

Why has this new curriculum been developed? 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.

What do we already do at Haverigg? At Haverigg we already weave many aspects of developing happy relationships and health awareness into all lessons and daily school life and strive to help children become respectful, kind and thoughtful individuals; we will continue to do this. However, the additional focus on the new Relationships curriculum will help to ensure more emphasis is placed on helping children understand what a happy and healthy relationship looks like in the 21st century, taking into account our online lives as well.

In addition to teaching about relationships and health, the Department of Education *'continues to recommend that all primary schools should also have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils.'* For years 5 and 6 we have always had sex education lessons that also encompass body change and puberty in preparation for transition to secondary school. We will be sending letters for upcoming sessions on this later this week. These are already delivered by staff and by our School Nurse.

What we would like you to do. In order for you to be fully aware of what we are teaching in school we would like to ask you to take part in a series of consultation activities over the next half term. These will enable us to gather your thoughts and views and also answer any questions you may have. The consultation activities will run as follows:

1. We will share our draft policy.
2. A short survey will then be sent out to gather your thoughts and views.
3. We will then set up meetings for parents to attend (most probably via zoom) and view some of the resources and lessons and ask any further questions
4. We will then finalise our draft policy based on feedback from parents, staff and governors.

Above all we want to make sure everyone understands the content of the new statutory curriculum and is aware of the non-statutory elements that we will be teaching in year 6 and the choice parents have to withdraw their children from these; we also very much welcome your thoughts and questions about this. To help you start to understand what will be taught in each year group, we have included a summary progression grid showing what each year group

"Think big; think differently and always creatively"

will be taught over the year in each of the 6 areas – you can then see how each year builds on the previous. We are proposing to use Discovery Education resources as they are fully matched to the statutory learning outcomes and delivered in a very child friendly way – we will show you more examples of these resources in the coming weeks. Many thanks in advance for taking the time to read what is quite a lot of information. The draft policy can be found here (click link to open):

<http://www.haverigg.cumbria.sch.uk/Relationships%20and%20sex%20Education%20draft%20policy.pdf>

The progression grid can be found here (click the link to open):

<http://www.haverigg.cumbria.sch.uk/Progression%20grid%20for%20the%20website.pdf>

The survey will be sent out in the next few days so please look out for this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Anongehou'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Head teacher