

### Isebrook SEN School

Relationships and Sex Education

Consultation with School Community

May 2021

### Isebrook Vision and Values

- At Isebrook School, our core purpose is to help create happy and successful adults
- At Isebrook School, our **vision** is that all students become confident individuals, responsible citizens and successful learners.
- ▶ At Isebrook School, we are committed to keeping all our students safe

High quality Relationships and Sex education is part of this.



## Why the curriculum is changing...

- ▶ It has been 20 years since the last review of the curriculum by the Department for education. The recent review has resulted in new relationships and sex Education guidance for all schools. Previous recommendations for teaching Personal, Social, Health Education are now part of the National Curriculum
- Today's young people are growing up in a 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, young people need to now how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.
- ► The Children and Social Work Act 2017 introduced a new legislation on relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education in Schools.
- Safeguarding Children is at the heart of Relationships and Sex Education



# Why is Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) important in schools?

- High quality RSE helps create safe school communities in which students can grow, learn and develop positive, healthy behaviour for life, and for the following reasons:
- RSE plays a vital part in school fulfilling their statutory duties to protect and safeguard their students. Ofsted is clear that schools must have preventative programme that enable students to learn about safety and risks in relationships.
- Schools have a statutory obligation to promote and develop students' wellbeing (Children Act 2004 and Education Act 2002) preparing children and young people for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life. A comprehensive RSE programme can have a positive impact on students' health and wellbeing.
- ► Technology is evolving rapidly. The need to protect children and young people from inappropriate online content, cyber-bullying and exploitation is a growing concern. A comprehensive RSE programme can support in addressing these issues.

#### **Protective Behaviours**



We all have the right to feel safe at all times.

# Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in Secondary Schools

The aim of Relationships and Sex Education in secondary schools is to give young people the information needed to develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds.

Pupils should explore how healthy relationships can benefit their own mental wellbeing and self respect.

Statutory guidance from the Department for Education identifies RSE in secondary schools includes:

| Relationships Education  | Physical health and Mental well being  |
|--|--|
| <ul> <li>Families</li> <li>Respectful relationships         including friendships</li> <li>Online and media         <ul> <li>Being safe</li> </ul> </li> <li>Intimate and Sexual relationships, including Sexual health</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Mental wellbeing</li> <li>Internet safety and harms</li> <li>Physical health and fitness</li> <li>Healthy Eating</li> <li>Drugs, alcohol and tobacco</li> <li>Health and prevention</li> <li>Basic first aid</li> <li>Changing body- puberty</li> </ul> |

# Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in Secondary Schools

Students should have the opportunity to learn about:

#### Mental health and wellbeing

- How to make well informed, positive choices for themselves that seek to support their own mental health and wellbeing
- Serious mental health and physical health conditions such as alcohol misuse
- How to judge when they or someone they know needs support and where they can seek help if needed.

#### The law around sex, sexuality, sexual health and identity

- The laws surrounding sex, sexuality, sexual health and gender identify
- Laws around marriage, consent, pornography, radicalisation and gangs
- Grooming, sexual exploitation and domestic abuse

At Isebrook we aim to flexibly and inclusively deliver any content in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate with respect to the backgrounds and beliefs of pupils and parents while always with the aimi of providing pupils with the knowledge they need of the law.

## How will be Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) be taught at Isebrook?

- The relationships and Sex education curriculum will be delivered through our PSHE lessons across the school year. Each short term will focus on one of the areas listed below with RSE embedded into each.
  - ▶ Self care, support and safety
  - ► Heathy lifestyles
  - ▶ The world I live in
  - ► Self- awareness
  - Managing feelings
  - ▶ Changing and growing
- Lessons will be delivered by class teachers who have received training on how to deliver RSE content appropriately for our students.
- As with all teaching, staff will use a range of specialist teaching strategies to support students to understand concepts.
- The curriculum is designed for key concepts to be re-visited regularly to enable students to process understanding and apply in different situations.
- Learning will also be supported through the work of the pastoral team and in particular learning mentors.

### Your rights as a parent or carer



As a parent or carer of a young person of school age, you have the right to:

- be informed of the RSE curriculum and policy
- be consulted about changes to these
- ▶ Request to withdraw your child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary school (other than those taught through science) This withdrawal should be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances or up to the point three terms before your child turns 16. At this point, if the young person themselves wished to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16- the legal age of sexual consent. All withdrawal requests will need to be agreed by the school Headteacher.
- Parents do not have the right to withdraw students from Relationships education or health education.

### Support for parents and carers

- The department for Education has produced guides for parents of Primary and Secondary aged children which can be used by schools to communicate how relationships and health education will be taught. The guides provide details of topics that will be covered and information of parent's rights to withdraw.
- You can access these guides using this link: <u>Relationships, sex and health education: guides for parents GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>
- ► These are also accessible on the School website via the RSE consultation section.
- As always, our pastoral and leadership teams are happy to support with issues around Relationships and Sex Education and will be happy to answer any questions. If you have specific questions around this consultation please email <a href="https://disebrookschool.co.uk">Hilsley@isebrookschool.co.uk</a>

## Next steps?



- Please look through the documents on our school website
- Complete the parent consultation formhttps://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6nxK5d7UrEWJpefNYIWLIj5IEZEzHXBKILIs B-fF2kVUMVNaTEw5RTFOM1BLT0NTVTI1T0FMTUc0WC4u or email Hilsley@isebrookschool.co.uk any questions or feedback
- We are particularly interested in hearing of any topics or concepts you would like support with at home
- All opinions will be taken into account upon review of our consultation and parents will be informed of the final RSE policy and curriculum offer.

We hope, as parents/ carers you have confidence that we are providing the highest quality education for your children. As a school community we are committed to working in partnerships with parents, so your views will be greatly appreciated to further inform our RSE policy and curriculum.

Thank you!