



22 March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Foundation Stage - PSMSC

PSMSC, or Personal, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education, allows students to find out about and discuss a range of topics which impact on their lives and futures. It is delivered in a combination of ways, including the extended tutor period, the wider pastoral programme and within the core Humanities curriculum.

One key element of PSMSC is Sex and Relationships Education (SRE), which is taught in the context of developing positive values and a moral framework that will help guide students in their future judgements and decisions. We aim to teach an awareness and respect of all human sexuality, as well as exploring reasons, consequences and responsibilities associated with sexual activity and behaviour.

As part of this ongoing education, we will be exploring the following topics in three of your son/daughter's Religion and Philosophy lessons during the summer term.

Year 7

- *Why does it all change?* Puberty
- *What makes me, me?* Gender and Sexuality
- *What is extremism?* Extremism

Year 8

- *What is 'normal'?* Sexual Characteristics & Masturbation
- *What should I know?* The dangers of sexual Images & Pornography
- *What is FGM and why is it illegal?* Female Genital Mutilation

Delivery of these themes will run in line with our Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) and Equality Policies, both of which can be found on the website.

Governors recognise the importance of all students' participation in SRE. A parent may, however, exercise a right of withdrawal from these lessons if the content is not part of the national curriculum (Section 405 of the Education Act 1996). Should you wish to exercise your right to withdraw your child from SRE you should inform the Headteacher in writing. If your child is withdrawn, the school will ensure your child has appropriate work during the period of withdrawal.

If you do wish to withdraw your child from SRE, we may invite you in to meet with Mrs Stephanie Bendall (Senior Assistant Head Teacher) who will explain the school's policy and discuss your concerns with you.

If you have any questions about the course, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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