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**Headteacher:** Alan Streeter



5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Re: Our PSHE & RSHE Programme**

We believe that promoting the health and well-being of our pupils is an important part of their overall education. We do this through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) course. This looks at many topics including all kinds of relationships, physical / emotional health and living in the wider world. The aim of the PSHE course is to help our pupils make safe and informed decisions during their school years and beyond.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is an important part of the PSHE course. We will be teaching lessons about RSHE from the summer term. This will include topics such as (*puberty; relationships and communication skills; pregnancy; contraceptives; prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases; prevention of sexual abuse and consent.*) During the course, pupils will be able to ask questions, which will be answered factually and in an age appropriate manner.

Some parts of RSHE are compulsory. Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of the sex education elements of the RSE programme (not those elements that fall within health or relationship education or other National Curriculum subjects, e.g. science). It is advised that parents and carers meet with relevant staff members to discuss potential withdrawal of their child from lessons and once this discussion has taken place, except in exceptional circumstances, the school should respect the parent's request to withdraw up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this during one of those terms. However, we believe that it is significant that all young people have a place to discuss pressures, check facts and dispel myths in a safe environment. Even if a child is withdrawn, many pupils will discuss such issues with each other outside the classroom – so, rather than hear about the content second-hand, we hope all children will have the opportunity to take part in our carefully planned lessons.

If you have any queries about the content of the programme or resources used, please do not hesitate in contacting me through email ([samantha.sthilaire@beaconhigh.org](mailto:samantha.sthilaire@beaconhigh.org)).

Yours faithfully,

*S St Hilaire*

Ms S St Hilaire  
PSHE Coordinator



**Executive Headteacher - Jo Dibb**