

25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a part of your child's education at Shoreham Academy, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

I am writing to let you know that starting 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023, your child's class will be taking part in lessons which will focus on the relationships and sex education (RSE) aspect of this programme. RSE lessons in year 2023-24 will include teaching about: Healthy relationships, including friendships and intimate relationships; families; changing feelings; becoming more independent; keeping safe and consent; online and media and developing self-esteem and confidence. Pupils will also have opportunities to ask questions that help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world.

PSHE education is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body. Please visit the school's website or FireFly for more detail about our PSHE & RSE curriculum. All PSHE teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values.

At Shoreham Academy we believe that success for our students can only be achieved when parents and staff work together. With this in mind, all parents will be given the opportunity to understand the purpose and content of our Relationships and Sex Education curriculum and this will take the form of a parent consultation which all parents are invited to attend. Parents will also be given the opportunity during this forum to discuss any concerns they may have which will in turn help to develop our curriculum moving forwards. As part of this consultation we will share examples of some of the key resources which are used as part of Relationships and Sex education to reassure parents of the content and enable parents to fully understand the content so that they can reinforce the key messages at home.

We would like to welcome any comments that you would like to raise, if these are urgent relating to the content being delivered on the first PSHE morning then please email [info@shoreham-academy.org](mailto:info@shoreham-academy.org) where they can be directed to the most relevant person to respond to you. If these comments can wait, then our first parent forum of the year will be in **November** where PSHE/RSE will be on the agenda, please look out on the parents weekly for the date to be confirmed. This is an opportunity to find out more about what your child will learn, view the materials and resources being used in lessons and discover how you can best support your child to discuss these topics at home.

Although parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from all or part of sex education that is delivered as part of our Relationships and Sex education curriculum, it is our aim at Shoreham Academy to encourage parents to understand the value of this education in helping to keep our students safe and to support their social, emotional and



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physical well-being and development. It is important to note that while parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from sex education which is delivered as part of the Relationships and Sex curriculum, parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from relationships education.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents; recent parental feedback has indicated that the majority of parents continue to be highly supportive of the relationships and sex education programme. If you would like to find out more or discuss any concerns, please do get in touch with us or attend the parent forum evening.

Yours sincerely,



**Jim Coupe**  
Principal



**Lydia Shelley**  
Vice Principal