



Brackenfield SEND School
Long Eaton
Derbyshire
NG10 4DA
0115 973 3710
enquiries@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk



Dear Parent/Carer,

Nowadays there is a vast amount of, sometimes confusing, information about relationships and sex on the internet, on TV, in magazines, etc which young people may have access to, and this can sometimes make an already confusing time seem even more complicated!

Therefore, as part of the school's wellbeing and relationships curriculum your child will soon receive lessons on relationships, health, puberty and sex education.

The purpose of Relationship, Health and Sex Education (RHSE) is to provide knowledge and understanding of how the human body changes during puberty and the processes of human reproduction, within the context of relationships based on love and respect. It should develop understanding and attitudes which will help pupils to form relationships in a responsible and healthy manner and to appreciate the value of stable family life, including the responsibilities of parenthood and marriage.

We aim for our pupils to grow into confident and healthy adults able to make positive choices. This can start with learning the basics about growing up and the sessions in school may reinforce what you are already doing at home.

This is the content your child will cover this year:

Relationships and Health education				
Year 7				
Families that there are different types of committed, stable relationships. How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children.	Mental wellbeing how to talk about their emotions accurately and sensitively, using appropriate vocabulary.	Physical health and fitness the positive associations between physical activity and promotion of mental wellbeing, including as an approach to combat stress	Healthy eating how to maintain healthy eating and the links between a poor diet and health risks, including tooth decay and cancer.	Science content of a healthy human diet: •carbohydrates, lipids (fats and oils), proteins, vitamins, minerals, dietary fibre and water, and why each is needed •calculations of energy requirements in a healthy daily diet •the consequences of imbalances in the diet, including obesity, starvation and deficiency diseases.

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Respectful relationships, including friendships the characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship.	Being safe how people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online).	Changing adolescent body key facts about puberty, the changing adolescent body and menstrual wellbeing. The main changes which take place in males and females, and the implications for emotional and physical health.	Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health how to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex* and friendship.	Health and prevention about personal hygiene, germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread, treatment and prevention of infection, and about antibiotics. The facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination.
Online and media their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online. About online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online. To know about the risks associated with AI-generated images, deepfakes and digitally manipulated media. To know the law relating to sharing sexual images and online sexual harassment. To understand how pornography can create unrealistic and harmful expectations about relationships and sex.		Internet safety and harms the similarities and differences between the online world and the physical world, including: the impact of unhealthy or obsessive comparison with others online (including through setting unrealistic expectations for body image), how people may curate a specific image of their life online, over-reliance on online relationships including social media, the risks related to online gambling including the accumulation of debt, how advertising and information is targeted at them and how to be a discerning consumer of information online. To understand the harmful impact of misogyny, incel culture and violence against women and girls.		

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Drugs, alcohol and tobacco the facts about legal and illegal drugs and their associated risks, including the link between drug use, and the associated risks, including the link to serious mental health conditions.	Science the effects of recreational drugs (including substance misuse) on behaviour, health and life processes.	Online and media how information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online.

Any content marked with a '*' is sex education content. The government guidance states it is mandatory to teach relationships and health education including the science behind conception (part of the science national curriculum) to all pupils in an appropriate way. Parents can withdraw their children from all or part of sex education that does not form part of the statutory National Curriculum. However, 3 terms before the child's 16th birthday they can opt into sex education. If you wish to withdraw your child from all or part of the schools sex education programme please complete [this form](#).

Learning will be tailored to your child's learning and cognition needs and appropriateness to their stage and age is considered. Please view [the RHSE plan on our website](#) to see how this will be done.

All teaching materials are appropriate to the age and emotional maturity of the pupils concerned and the teachers will aim to present the programme in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner. Please email the class team if you would like to view the resources, have any questions or have any particular information we should be aware of regarding your child and the teaching of RSHE.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Chandler and Miss Conway
(FRC Lead) (Good Health Lead)

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