

2 December 2021

## Y8 Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum

Dear Y8 Parent / Carer,

At KAA we are committed to educating your child with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in later life, both academically and in their wider social and emotional welfare. As part of your child's education, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education program.

I am writing to let you know that, in our PSHE lessons this term, your child's class will be taking part in lessons that will focus on the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) aspect of the PSHE education program. RSE lessons in Year 8 will include teaching about physical and mental health during puberty, types of relationships, understanding consent, contraception, and safety and well-being in romantic, as well as non-romantic, relationships.

Our students are growing up in an increasingly complex world. They have many exciting opportunities ahead of them and it is our desire to equip them to navigate these opportunities safely and successfully. As an academy, we are committed to the Equality Act of 2010; we have a statutory responsibility to deliver lessons that educate about, and challenge discrimination to anyone on the grounds of "age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation." Please be assured that the lessons have been planned to reflect the breadth of views within our student community and to ensure that students learn that respectful debate is healthy and productive.

The Department of Education has made the teaching of RSE compulsory for all schools. According to the government's new legislation, parents have the right to withdraw a child in Year 8 from the Sex Education lessons in this program, but are not able to withdraw him/her from any aspects of the Relationships or Health Education. We can confirm that our focus thus far has been on Relationships and Health Education, however from week commencing Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December, we will begin the lessons on Sex Education. Further guidance is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education-faqs>.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents; parental feedback has indicated that the overwhelming majority of parents continue to be highly supportive of the relationships and sex education program. If you would like to find out more or discuss any concerns, we are more than happy to for you to contact us directly via the email addresses provided below.

Best wishes,



**Millie Reed**  
Co-Director of Learning Year 8  
[m.reed@kaa.org.uk](mailto:m.reed@kaa.org.uk)



**Hisham Abubaker**  
Co-Director of Learning Year 8  
[h.abubaker@kaa.org.uk](mailto:h.abubaker@kaa.org.uk)



**Carrie Sharman**  
Assistant Principal  
[c.sharman@kaa.org.uk](mailto:c.sharman@kaa.org.uk)