

20 December 2023

Y10 Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum

Dear Y10 Parents / Carers,

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 Spring 1, our PSHE lessons across the whole school will cover Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). In year 10, this all includes a "Drop Down" Day on Wednesday 17th January when students will have a full day of PSHE lessons in place of their normal timetabled lessons. The key questions we will be covering in lessons and as part of the Drop Down Day are:

- What is sexuality?
- Can we use normal to describe relationships?
- How does the media reinforce sexual norms?
- What is a healthy relationship?
- What are the different types of relationships?
- Why is consent important in our relationships?
- **How do I know if I am ready to have sex?**
- **How can the media influence relationships (including the influence of pornography)?**
- **What are STIs and how can I prevent them (contraception and STIs)?**

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, and 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. You can access the lesson content [here](#).

The Department for Education has made the teaching of RSE compulsory for all schools. According to the government's new legislation, parents have the right to withdraw their child from the Sex Education lessons, but are not able to withdraw him/her from any aspects of the Relationships or Health Education. The questions highlighted in **red** refer to times when students will learn about Sex Education. If you would like to request to withdraw your child, please email me at j.vines@kaa.org.uk and I will provide more information. 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 lessons. To further this partnership, I would like to invite you to our **Relationships and Sex Education Coffee Morning on Wednesday 10th January** at 9.30am if you would like to hear more about the RSE curriculum at KAA and to answer any questions you may have. To sign up please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/oZ4QkDTPH6udNBWk7>

If you would like to find out more or discuss any concerns, please contact me directly via email at j.vines@kaa.org.uk.

Best wishes,

Jasmine Vines
Assistant Principal – Personal Development