

29th January 2024

SPR2 Science Lessons

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to make you aware that the next topic we are covering in science next half term is 'the biology of sexual reproduction'.

We are required to teach reproduction in humans and plants as part of the National Curriculum as dictated by the Department for Education. The details below are taken from 'Science programmes of study: Key Stage 3 National Curriculum in England' published by the Department for Education.

'Reproduction':

- **reproduction in humans (as an example of a mammal), including the structure and function of the male and female reproductive systems, menstrual cycle (without details of hormones), gametes, fertilisation, gestation and birth, to include the effect of maternal lifestyle on the foetus through the placenta.**
- **reproduction in plants, including flower structure, wind and insect pollination, fertilisation, seed and fruit formation and dispersal, including quantitative investigation of some dispersal mechanisms.'**

This unit does not include topics that are discussed in PSHE, for example, sexual relationships. It therefore does not come under sex education and as such there is no right to withdraw. The subject matter will be taught with sensitivity towards the students' different backgrounds and prior knowledge.

For more detailed information about what is covered in this unit, I recommend the following website produced by the BBC: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zybbkqt>.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to email us on:

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Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours sincerely,

Jazmin Speakman
Director of Science (Interim)