



Redfield Edge Primary School



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Relationships, Sex and Health Education**

#### **Who will teach the content, will it be the regular class teacher or a "special lesson"?**

The class teacher will always teach the lessons that focus on Relationships and Sex Education. This will be as part of their weekly Jigsaw lessons, so won't be posed as a 'special' lesson. Teachers will however tell the children that what they are being taught is suitable for them at their age, and not something to be sharing with younger children. All teachers have received training on the new curriculum as well as answering any potentially tricky questions appropriately.

#### **Will we be told what day it will be taught so we can prepare for any questions when the children come home from school?**

Yes – this information will be sent to parents as soon as teachers have finalised their plans for next term.

#### **How do you plan to catch up on content for older children when they have not had such frank and factual information in previous years due to the curriculum change?**

There is going to be extra time dedicated to RSHE lessons this year and in following years as necessary to allow teachers time to plan from previous year groups. Teachers will track which parts of the curriculum have been covered and this will be handed over to new class teachers, to ensure knowledge is built on next year.

#### **For the first year that the new scheme is taught, how you plan on delivering the curriculum to pupils in Year 6 in such a short period of time so that the children have a comprehensive understanding and awareness without information overload?**

Children in Year 6 will have extra time dedicated to these lessons across the term, so that they can be taught all of the information that they need to know before transitioning to secondary school. Unfortunately it will not be possible to 'drip feed' the information on this occasion, as children will be taught the year 7 content when they are in secondary school. The children's safeguarding is our main priority, so we want them to leave Redfield Edge with the information they need to keep themselves safe. We will ensure that days are carefully planned to ensure that children are not overwhelmed, and there will be lots of opportunity for the children to ask questions. If you have any concerns about how your child is responding to the lessons, please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

#### **What information will be taught about adoption and will you let us know when this is likely to be delivered?**

In Key Stage 1, children learn that there are many different types of families, and focus on the qualities that make a family, stressing that there is no "norm", as all families are different. One of the many examples of diversity is children who are adopted by their

parents. There isn't explicitly taught content on this but images represent a balance of different family types and conversation ensures the children understand how families can differ. This work is reinforced in Year 3.

In Year 4, term 5, there is a lesson on people who were once in our life who we don't see. This is not in the context of adoption but a child may mention this if they were aware of their life story. In Year 4, term 6, the first lesson teaches the children how some of their characteristics come from their genes, via their birth parents. Adoption is not specifically mentioned in this lesson, but it is advised that a conversation is had with the child beforehand about this. In Year 5, the lesson about conception also mentions that there are other ways for parents to have children, such as IVF and adoption (although this is not the focus of the lesson).

We are very keen to work with families to ensure that our curriculum is inclusive for all children – please do get in touch with your child's class teacher if you would like to discuss this further.

### **What will be taught with regards to menstruation in Year 3?**

We teach that girls' ovaries store hundreds of tiny eggs (or ova) and during puberty they start to release them, one at a time each month. If an ovum isn't fertilised to grow into a baby, it passes out of the body as a 'period'.

This is part of a broader conversation about inside and outside changes during puberty. Children are encouraged to reflect on the good things about growing up (e.g. making new friends, making more of their own decisions) and will have opportunities to share any worries they may have.

### **Was the Q&A recorded so people can watch back?**

The session was not recorded, however, there will be a live session with your child's class teacher part way through term 6, to enable parents to ask any further questions they may have. Please look out for an email from the office with information regarding this.