



Ancaster
Church of England Primary School

Monday 9th May 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our commitment to offer the best curriculum possible, we firmly believe that Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) underpins all of the National Curriculum Teaching and enrichment opportunities that we offer here at Ancaster Church of England Primary School. To inform our teaching and learning, we follow the Cambridgeshire Personal Development Programme. This is an integrated programme, covering all aspects of PSHE including emotional health and wellbeing, drugs, healthy eating and physical activity, citizenship and safety, which separates learning into key themes.

The themes within the programme are as follows:

- Myself and my relationships**
- Citizenship**
- Healthy and safer lifestyles**
- Economic wellbeing**

These themes are further broken down in to sub themes which are differentiated for each phase of primary education; these being Foundation Stage, Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6.

As part of the group of units within 'Healthy and safer Lifestyles' all children throughout the school, using age appropriate content, learn about their bodies and how they change and grow. One of the sub themes we would like to draw your attention to is called 'Sex and Relationship Education'. In Foundation Stage and up to Year 2, this involves children naming the main parts of the body and understanding how to keep their bodies clean and healthy. In Years 3/4 it involves understanding how males and females are different and naming main parts of the body and it is not until Year 5/6 that teaching about puberty and reproduction is begun.

Whilst the term 'sex' can sound a little extreme at primary school, it must be made clear that the learning focuses primarily on the human body, within the context of emotions, relationships and healthy choices. This early learning lays the foundations for more detailed study at secondary school and contributes to the emotional and social development of children, helping them to develop a secure sense of identity to function well in the world.

As always, in Term 6 all classes will undertake their year group appropriate PSHE Learning for Healthy and Safer Lifestyles – Sex and Relationship Education as outlined above. As parents you are entitled to withdraw your child from any sessions which do not contain statutory content linked to the science curriculum, should you wish to. We would urge you to consider this carefully as we believe this learning is fundamental to the safety and healthy development of all children. Our school Sex and Relationship policy is available on our school website and printed copies are available by request. If you would like to discuss this further, please see your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Sam Eden
Headteacher

Mrs Clare Talbot
Deputy Headteacher & PSHE Subject Leader

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