



KING JAMES'S SCHOOL

KNARESBOROUGH

April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

At King James's School we are committed to providing all pupils with a Personal, Social, Health, Education (PSHE) programme to enable them to acquire the knowledge, skills and strategies they need in life. We aim to help them to develop an understanding of themselves; their ability to work with others, form and maintain good relationships, plan for future employment and better manage their lives. An outline of our PSHE curriculum is published on our school website.

The Government have made Relationships Education and Health Education statutory for all schools from September 2020 but they are encouraging all schools to adopt the new learning outcomes as early as possible, so we have already integrated the statutory requirements into our planned PSHE curriculum and other supporting curriculum opportunities. The Government guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

The Government have produced some information leaflets for parents to explain what the new curriculum consists of and is trying to achieve. These can be accessed at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812594/RSE_secondary_schools_guide_for_parents.pdf

In Year 9 we teach the Relationships and Sex Education element of this programme. This includes learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, gender, sexuality, sex and sexual health. It supports pupils to gain accurate information, develop skills and form positive beliefs, values and attitudes. It also gives pupils essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful, loving and non-exploitative friendships and relationships, staying safe both on and offline. This enables them to take responsibility for their body, relationships, reproduction, sexual health and wellbeing. Many of these aspects are also further explored in the Key Stage Four PSHE curriculum.

Teaching staff approach this aspect of the curriculum very sensitively and the lessons and materials are age appropriate. If school closure continues beyond Easter some of this programme will be delivered through online learning rather than in the classroom. Please be reassured that the lesson materials and information have been reviewed and adapted appropriately.

Some aspects of this curriculum are delivered through the National Curriculum Science and some through the PSHE curriculum. Until September 2020, Parents / carers do have the right to withdraw your child(ren) from the relationships education curriculum but we would ask that you contact Helen Handley, Assistant Headteacher to discuss any questions you may have. From September 2020 parents will be unable to withdraw children from the Relationships Education and Health Education.

Our Relationships and Sex education policy it is available on our school website under Policies, if you would like a copy of the Year 9 Learning Journey, to see any of the teaching resources or have any

further questions about this aspect of the curriculum please do not hesitate to contact me on helenhandley@king-james.n-yorks.sch.uk and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Handley', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Helen Handley

Assistant Headteacher, Safeguarding