

Mike Pride Executive Director Respect Collaboration of Schools Unit 16 Pride Park Victoria Way DE24 8AN

Year 11

Your ref: Our ref: AM/JF Date: 23rd October 23 Contact: Amy Meakin Tel: 01332 973836

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may already be aware, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, now forms part of the National Curriculum. As part of our school's wider Personal, Social and Health Education programme, your child will soon receive lessons on relationships, sexual health and personal safety.

The purpose of the curriculum is to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on respect. This is to encourage the development of safe and healthy relationships throughout life. The subject is designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships.

Up to three terms before your child turns 16, you do have a right to withdraw your child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools, after consultation with the senior leadership team. At this point, if your child themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school will make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before your child turns 16. If you wish to withdraw your child from these sessions please contact myself or their key worker.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at secondary level and we believe the content of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught. However, we are confident you will share our enthusiasm for the successful implementation of the PSHE curriculum, which we feel will benefit all of our students. As our current website in under maintenance, should you wish to see a copy of the RSE policy then please don't hesitate to get in contact.

These are the key areas students will be learning about next term:

Explain the core values and emotions in a relationship Recognise and distinguish between gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation Communicate wants and needs assertively in relationships Explain ways to handle unwanted attention including online Evaluate and demonstrate a range of strategies to challenge harassment and stalking and various forms of relationship abuse Evaluate features of unhealthy, exploitative and abusive relationships Identify how to access support in abusive relationships and how to overcome challenges in seeking support including online You are welcome to contact me to discuss the programme further.

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Yours sincerely,

Amy Meakin <u>a.meakin@bridgestreetschoolderby.co.uk</u>