

Principal: Mark Woodhouse

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21st September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Relationships, Sex & Health Education

Schools/academies have a statutory duty to teach Relationships, Sex & Health Education from the academic year beginning in September 2020 with the aim of giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds. Health Education gives young people the information they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing. This builds upon Relationships & Sex Education, currently taught in secondary schools. Details of subject content of can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907640/RSE_secondary_schools_guide_for_parents.pdf

The majority of the content will be delivered at The Nicholas Hamond Academy through the LOOL curriculum, Tutor time PSHE session and Curriculum Days. This will be supported by teaching in additional subject areas, where specialisms allow specific content to be integrated into teaching. Topics will be revisited and interleaved over academic years, in order to promote the long-term learning of students.

You have the right to request that your child is withdrawn from Sex Education lessons. The Principal will consider and discuss this with you and will grant this in all but exceptional circumstances. Within three academy terms of a child turning 16, they can choose to receive Sex Education if they would like to and the academy should arrange for them to receive this teaching in one of these three terms unless there are exceptional circumstances. Children cannot be withdrawn from the Health Education or Relationships Education element of Relationships & Sex Education.

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As part of the process of implementation of these changes to the curriculum, schools/academies are required to consult with parents/carers about the implementation of the teaching of Relationships, Sex & Health Education. Due to COVID and the closure of schools/academies, the extension for consultation with parents/carers has been extended. As such, a form requesting comments has also been attached to this letter. I would be grateful if you could use this to return any comments via your child's form tutor by **Monday 5th October 2020**, as part of a collation, review and action of feedback as appropriate. Whilst the content of Relationships, Sex & Health Education is fixed by government, schools/academies do have flexibility to deliver the content in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate and sensitive to the needs and religious backgrounds of its students.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share the whole of the PSHE curriculum we intend to deliver across the academic year by year group, so that you as parents/carers can be engaged with the topics if you wish to. I would also like to highlight that we have planned to deliver the more sensitive subjects on Curriculum Days and I will write to you with exact details of what will be taught on those days, to enable you to be reassured in regards to our approach.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Warnes'.

Mrs K. Warnes
Director of Pastoral Care