

25 January 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

As part of the school's Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme your child will be participating in a lesson on relationships and sexual health (SRE). These lessons will take place within school and will be delivered by a trained team of staff from Birmingham Community Healthcare Trust as well as the school nurse. Evidence shows that comprehensive programmes of SRE can have a positive impact on young people's sexual behaviour, helping them to make sense of the sexual messages and imagery around them, to understand risks and consequences and to gain the knowledge and skills they need to stay safe and be healthy (DfE 2010).

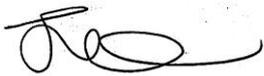
The National PSHE programme is adopted by all schools and as such we are required to provide all students with a full and clear understanding of all aspects of PSHE as outlined in the National Curriculum Framework.

The purpose of the PSHE programme delivered at Ninestiles is to provide knowledge and understanding of the nature of sexuality and the process of human reproduction, within the context of marriage and relationships. It should develop understanding and attitudes, which will help students to form relationships in a responsible and healthy manner. The outcome of the programme will mean all students will have the opportunity to make a smooth transition into adulthood with good information and the confidence, knowledge and understanding to make positive choices about relationships, therefore ensuring they become well rounded, secure young people.

This session will take place during Aspire sessions on a rotation basis between now (Friday 27th January) and the end of the school year and will be delivered in single sex groups. As a parent you have the right to withdraw your child from all or part of sex education that does not form part of the statutory National Curriculum but the Department for Education states that "if parents choose to withdraw their children from school provision they have a responsibility to provide alternative SRE". In our experience, and because of the responsible and thoughtful way in which this part of the curriculum is delivered, very few parents have taken this option.

If you would like to discuss the programme further or withdraw your child from all or part of the school's sex and relationships education programme please contact me via email Jackie.mcgillicuddy@ninstiles.org.uk or by a letter brought into the school office.

Yours faithfully,



Jackie McGillicuddy
Vice Principal
Ninestiles, An Academy