



VERNON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Monday 20th May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We recently invited you to complete our RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) Parental Consultation and would like to thank you for taking part. We are committed to working in partnership with parents and all stakeholders and as such, your feedback is invaluable. Please find below the results of this survey:

97.7% of parents/carers agree that they understand that the relationships curriculum is an important part of the PSHE curriculum in school, as well as Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development. **2.3%** partly agree.

98.1% of parents/carers agree that they are pleased that their child learns about different aspects of relationships including: family structures, friendship, bullying, team work, growing up, feelings, stereotypes and consent. **1.9%** partly agree.

99.5% of parents/carers agree that they understand the benefit of children being taught about relationships and acknowledge the link to safeguarding. **0.5%** partly agree.

94.4% of parents/carers agree that Relationships Education should be inclusive and represent the diverse society in which we live in. **4.2%** partly agree and **1.4%** disagree.

96.8% of parents/carers understand and agree with the content of the school's Relationships Policy. **2.3%** partly agree. **0.9%** disagree.

In line with the statutory Government guidelines that were introduced in September 2020, we teach 'Relationships Education' as part of our PSHE curriculum. Our Relationships policy reflects our approach to this subject area and as with all school policies, undergoes regular review. We are pleased that an overwhelming majority of you are happy with, understand and agree with the content of this curriculum and its place within PSHE education.

A couple of parents commented on the teaching of gender identity and how we approach this topic. I would like to reassure you that all PSHE subjects are taught with sensitivity and in line with both Government advice and recommendations from the PSHE Association. We discuss gender as part of our work on individuality and self-expression during the summer term in Year 5 and the Autumn term in Year 6. This forms a small part of a wider unit of work related to growing and changing, families and relationships.

We received a comment about including dialogue around divorced families as part of our curriculum and we completely agree. In the Autumn term in each year group, our focus in PSHE is families and relationships. As part of this, we discuss what makes a family and how families can differ in many ways. We feel that a family is any group of people who love each other and identify as a family; we will ensure that all families are represented in these discussions with children and that children feel comfortable discussing their own circumstances if they wish.



'Nobody else is quite like me'



One parent expressed concerns over some of the content covered in our older year groups in their child's future journey at Vernon. We hope it reassures you to know that whenever we are teaching content that may be of a sensitive nature, we consult with parents before this happens, usually by writing an informative letter and offering to give access to the resources we will be using. Where there are elements of the PSHE Association's content that are not statutory, we make a judgement as to whether we feel it is appropriate to teach this to the children or whether to exclude it until they are older. We often adapt content to ensure it is covered in a way that is appropriate for the age and stage of the children.

Within the comments section of the survey, we received an enquiry as to where to find our Relationships policy. This can be located on our dedicated PSHE website page: [PSHE at Vernon](#).

Your thoughts and views are an important part of the process and will continue to contribute to the shaping of the teaching and learning of this area across the school. We will continue to be using a number of high-quality resources and teaching tools to deliver this part of the curriculum, such as those offered through the 'PSHE Association', as well as drawing on our experience of teaching PSHE as part of the primary curriculum. Although sex education is still optional in primary schools, in line with DfE guidance we will continue to deliver a sex education programme specifically for our Year 6 children. Parents will be able to withdraw their child from this aspect of the curriculum and more information about this will be available during your child's final year at school.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the spider survey and for your positive response to how we approach the statutory Relationships curriculum at our school.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs J Carvell
Headteacher



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