



Heartwood CE VC Primary and Nursery School

White Cross Road, Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 7RF

Tel 01760 721357 | Fax 01760 720193

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Headteacher Mrs Emily McMillen

Deputy Headteacher Mrs Rebecca Starman



Friday 17th May 2024

Update in Relationships Sex Health Education (Life skills) in schools

You may have been hearing controversial topics and updates for RSHE on the news and in social media this week. The government is reviewing the guidance and they have sent out a draft for an 8-week consultation.

The changes are listed below, but these do not impact our curriculum and delivery, we have written in green what we do at Heartwood.

- ☐ Sex education will not be taught before year 5- we do this summer term of year 6. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from this after a meeting.
- ☐ Children will only learn age-appropriate content- Our curriculum reflects this and is from the respected PSHE association materials and planning guidance.
- ☐ Parents have the right to see all resources- we send half termly curriculum letters with the content and vocabulary on prior to teaching it. Parents/carers. have been informed of their rights to see resources at their request. Year 6 parents will see the sex ed resources prior to the lessons at a group meeting. They have the right to withdraw their child after this.
We email parents/carers when we have a change of life skills sessions or some additional sessions to ensure that they are aware of the content and change, this was informed from parental feedback.
- ☐ The contested theory of gender identity will not be taught We do not teach this, and it is not part of our Life Skills curriculum, if a child asks about it we would inform their parents/carers for them to have the conversation at home

We have an annual consultation which is sent to parents/carers to inform our policy and curriculum, this is due again in the autumn term.

If you have any questions on the Life Skills curriculum at Heartwood, please speak to your child's class teacher for more information.

Kind regards

Emily McMillen

Headteacher/ Life Skills leader





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