

Responses to Parent Consultations on PSHE/ RSE Policy and Curriculum

November 2021 31 responses were received

1. I think PSHE/ RSE education is an important part of the school curriculum

Strongly agreed	58%
Agreed	26%
Neutral	13%
Disagree	0%
Strongly Disagree	3%

2. PSHE/ RSE topic taught in school makes a real different to young people's lives.

Strongly agreed	42%
Agreed	35%
Neutral	20%
Disagree	3%
Strongly Disagree	0%

3. I feel happy to talk to my child about growing up, sex and relationships.

Strongly agreed	35%
Agreed	52%
Neutral	13%
Disagree	0%
Strongly Disagree	0%

4. I understand and agree with the content of the PSHE/ RSE policy

Strongly agreed	32%
Agreed	52%
Neutral	6%
Disagree	0%
Strongly Disagree	10%

5. I am aware of the topics that will be covered by PSHE/ RSE at Heathcote Primary

Strongly agreed	39%
Agreed	48%
Neutral	10%
Disagree	0%
Strongly Disagree	3%

6. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the PSHE/ RSE policy or curriculum?

I'd like a stronger focus on gender equality, and teaching what is wrong & right behaviour within relationships – we are delivering Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work which covers this area well – Mrs Tarry PSHE co-ordinator will over time share this work with parents and carers.

I personally think that as a society children nowadays grow up with people from various sexual orientation and already aware of this. From personal experience with my 10 year old daughter, I've heard her and her friends saying they are "dating" other girls in their class at school and I think they just simply aren't mature enough to understand how a loving, sexual relationship works and that this is almost like a "trend" or "fad" to them. I think sexuality is a natural process that comes with age and various sexual orientation is widely more accepted anyway these days. However, I do feel education should be taught in secondary schools as part of having a respectful attitude to people's differences on the whole and by that I mean all differences such as disabilities and race. I feel that very young children are far too young and immature to understand this concept and that it could potentially do more harm than good. In my view a very simple way to put across this type of education would be to broadly teach children in primary education about people's differences in general be it sexuality, race, religion and disability and the effects that bullying has on others in a very simplified manor. Although I did attend a talk at school represented by a member of WCC, I still felt that topics such as gender fluidity and non-binary could be mentally damaging to a very young child and extremely confusing as they mature. We are following a recognised scheme of work Jigsaw which addresses these areas at age-appropriate levels.

Sex education should not be taught to children under year 5 – We teach the children about their bodies and changes at age appropriate levels. The slides we use can be found on our website.

It states 'Schools within our Trust are free to determine how and when they teach the pupils about LGBT content (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) and all pupils are taught the LGBT content at a timely point as part of the curriculum.' Can you please show on the progression map, at what stage these concepts are introduced?

We teach the children about different family types from Reception but the discussion is always age appropriate.

7. Is there anything we are not covering that you think we need to address?

Puberty should be taught from Year 4 upwards rather than Year 5.

Bullying, racism and disability (please note these are all taught through our PSHE curriculum and British Values and through our assembly themes)

Really like the teaching of early warning signs and identifying emotions.

8. As a parent, do you feel like you need more information or guidance on specific topics? How would this information be best communicated?

*If there is a certain book that you can recommend to explain to children about the changes they're going through, it would be appreciated. Maybe the newsletter could have a recommended read for parents. **We have a list of books on the website that parents can access and also add into the newsletter yes. Some suggestions are:***

Mummy Laid an Egg by Babette Cole

Let's talk about the Birds and Bees by Molly Potter

Girl Talk by Lizzie Cox

What's happening to me? Boy by Alex Frith

Amazing you: Getting smart about your private parts by Gail Saltz

*Would appreciate strong reassurance to the positive side of experiencing puberty. **We certainly support pupils and explain the positives of growing up and will continue to do this through our lessons.***

*Would appreciate emails home when certain things are discussed so we can continue at home. **This is certainly something we can support and will implement moving forward.***

I think receiving electronic communication under a Word or pdf format is the best way already, as it allows easier reading, organising and storage, together with saving paper. I would think that any new information that as parents we could get from the school is always welcomed. Thank you on behalf of our family!

*I would like to support and mirror the vocabulary and topics you teach. I think it is important that children get the same messages at home and at school. A handout would be great. **Where it is feasible we can do this or use email to share topics taught. Vocabulary and topics are on our school website.***

*We need to know what will be taught to our children when, so we can ensure we are prepared for conversations at home. **Sex education is taught in the summer term in a one off lesson. PSHE is taught weekly throughout the year and relationships form part of our PSHE lessons. You can see the progression maps on our website. Each class publishes a medium term plan which also shows you what will be taught during PSHE in that term. For example in Year 2 in the first Autumn term they looked at building new relationships and describing feelings.***