



Our ref: HD/AMW  
17 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Relationships and Sex Education at Brookfield Community School**

Brookfield Community School is committed to providing a high quality educational experience, encouraging our students to have an attitude of 'Committed to Excellence' in everything they do. Our curriculum determines and underpins the whole ethos of our school, celebrating achievement and encouraging students to achieve excellence. Our personal, social and health education curriculum (Personal Development now named LIFE 360) brings together citizenship with personal well-being, whilst promoting fundamental British Values ensuring our young people become responsible citizens. Our Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) provision ensures that students are equipped with the information, skills and values to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships and to take responsibility for their sexual health and well-being. Although Personal Development is taught through discreet, age appropriate lessons, it also underpins regular form time activities, assemblies, educational visits and extra-curricular events. It is intended that we will offer a cohesive whole-school approach which enables our students to become healthy, independent and responsible members of society. It is delivered to all students in accordance with the school's Equal Opportunities Policy and the requirements of the DfE Sex and Relationships Education Guidance (2000) and the more recent Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 which are made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

At Brookfield Community School, Relationships and Sex Education is:

- a partnership between home and school
- includes the acquisition of knowledge, the development of life skills and respectful attitudes and values
- has sufficient opportunity to cover a wide range of topics, with a strong emphasis on relationships, consent, rights, responsibilities to others, negotiation and communication skills, and accessing services
- helps students understand on and offline safety, consent, violence and exploitation
- is inclusive of difference: gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, culture, age, faith or belief, or other life experience
- teaches students about the law and their rights to confidentiality even if they are under 16, and is linked to school-based and community health services and organisations
- promotes equality in relationships, recognises and challenges gender inequality and reflects girls' and boys' different experiences and needs



What topics will be covered and when?

### 1. RSE in Key Stage 3

At this age, students are going through numerous changes both physically and mentally. The sessions will cover:

- changes to the body, emotions and mental health during puberty
- human fertility
- contraception
- personal responsibility for health (e.g. personal hygiene, healthy habits, internet use)
- the menstrual cycle
- sexual relationships and an individual's health (including STIs, HIV and AIDs).
- introduction to consent and thinking about personal boundaries and how to set them
- the effect of the media and the internet on body image

### 2. RSE in Key Stage 4

The sessions will address:

- human fertility - how males and females differ in their fertility
- the impact of the internet and mobile technology on sexual issues and how this might be different for boys and girls.
- pornography and the potential for it to affect relationships and expectations
- peer pressure and how it may affect the choices they make
- choices and alternatives to different sexual situations.
- consent in the context of relationships
- self-care (breast and testicle examination)
- healthy and unhealthy relationships
- teenage parenthood.

We are working to make sure that our new curriculum reflects:

- our students' age and maturity levels, as well as their cultural and religious backgrounds,
- the values of our school community to achieve excellence and that every students' learning needs
- what students need to know to be healthy and safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider world.

If you would like any more information, the RSE policy along with some resources are located on the school website, where there is also the DfE guidance document

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

Alternatively, you can contact Mrs Taylor and/or Mrs Dafforne at school via the [enquires@brookfieldcs.org.uk](mailto:enquires@brookfieldcs.org.uk) email address, should you wish to discuss any aspects related to this.

Please note all school visitors linked to this programme will undergo relevant safeguarding checks and follow our External Speakers policy to ensure safe and consistent delivery of content.

Thank you for your support with this important element of our school curriculum.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Dafforne  
Assistant Headteacher Safeguarding and Personal Development