



## RSE- Relationships and Sex Education at Lowton West Primary School

Before September 2020, PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) was a non-statutory subject, and section 2.5 of the National Curriculum framework document stated that: 'All schools should make provision for personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), drawing on good practice.'

However, from September 2020 Relationships Education became statutory in Primary schools in England, with government guidance being offered during 2019 as to the expected content of this curriculum.

### Why is RSE needed? (RSHE)

- More than ever before, children are exposed to representations of sex and sexuality through the media/ social media and the social culture around them, so we need to present a balanced view of RSE at Lowton West and help them to be discerning and stay safe.
- Research shows that most parents say they want the support of schools in providing RSE for their children. This was also the case in our 2021 Parent Survey, with 262 replies.
- Surveys of children and young people, as well as Ofsted, have repeatedly said that RSE tends to be "too little, too late and too biological".

### What will my child be taught and when?

The topic of Puberty comes under the **Changing adolescent body (Health Education) Statement**, which states that 'pupils should know key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes and that children should know about menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle.'

At Lowton West Primary School, this will be taught at Years 5 and Year 6 (Upper Key Stage 2).

In Year 6, we have the opportunity to offer a 'Pregnancy and Conception' lesson delivered by HH Kids. Parents/ Carers will be consulted as to the aspects covered within this lesson. **Parents/Carers will have the right to withdraw their child from this lesson.**

Each year group will be taught appropriate to their age and developmental stage. Please note: at no point will a child be taught something that is inappropriate; and if a question from a child arises and the teacher feels it would be inappropriate to answer, (for example, because of its mature or explicit nature), the child will be encouraged to ask his/her parents or carers at home, and the question will not be answered to the child or class if it is outside the remit of that year group's programme.

These lessons are really important as they help keep children safe and it helps them make healthy decisions later in life. Accurate information is important, but only part of the picture. We wish to help our pupils now by building their inner resilience, so they become mindful children, mindful teenagers, and mindful adults.

**Parents will be fully informed of the teaching materials before the lessons for both the puberty lesson in Year 5 & 6 and The 'Pregnancy and Conception' lesson in Year 6.**