

## RHE (Relationships and Health Education) Parent and Carer FAQs – January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for taking the time to watch and read the RHE updates. Also thank you for the questions and comments that have been emailed in, this has really helped.

Below is a list of Frequently Asked Questions relating to the new RHE curriculum along with further information. Finally just to reassure you that what we are teaching the children in school is statutory, following new government guidelines.

Laura Wheaton  
RHE Subject Leader

### Questions

1) Considering that Jigsaw is a new initiative, and the children have not had the benefit of previous topic learning and have missed some learning this year. Are there any plans to cover previous year group term topics to help them understand this year's topics?

*Teachers will look at the children's previous knowledge and will plan to fill gaps to ensure children understand fully. The planning materials that we will be using through Jigsaw have a section regarding prior learning for teachers to refer to.*

2) Term 6- Changing me for Year 5, can you advise what Transition would relate to please? Also it seems quite a leap from the year 4 topic areas to now cover IVF, age of consent. Boyfriends / girlfriends and appropriateness are not covered until year 6 so this seems slightly out of step with sexual intercourse which is raised in year 5.

*Term 6 Year 5 focuses on puberty (girls and boys), conception and the children being confident in the changes that will happen to their bodies as they become teenagers. It also looks at the transition of moving from year 5 to year 6.*

*When teaching about conception it is important that children understands how this happens, either naturally or via IVF. The reason that boyfriends/girlfriends are taught in year 6 and not before is because it is linked to the age and stage that children are at. Moving towards secondary school pupils may choose to have a boyfriend or girlfriend and it is important that they understand the appropriateness of this relationship.*

3) Will the classes be split with the girls learning about some of these topics separately from the boys?

*No, it is important that both genders understand the changes that each other will be going through.*

4) Will we be provided with the actual content for the terms topics so we can help prepare the children, understand the level of information being provided to them and also be able to discuss topics with them after they have completed them at school?

*The overview of topics explains the content that children will learn and when.*

5) How is an individual's sexual orientation included within these topics?

*This is covered in many different ways such as in Year 3 Celebrating Differences, children learn about diverse families.*

6) What do you consider is the benefit of them knowing the precise terminology of body parts?

*This is a statutory requirement for the age and stage the children are at.*