



Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Meeting regarding the delivery of Relationship and Sex Education (RSE),
Friday 12th November at 9.15am**

Special schools have a duty to ensure that children with special educational needs are properly included in RSE. It is important to recognise that there is a wide range of pupils who may need particular support because of their learning or physical disabilities or who have social and communication difficulties or other needs. RSE should help all students understand their physical and emotional development and enable them to make positive decisions in their lives.

Students across the school, in accordance with the Sex and Relationship Education Policy will be receiving information in lesson activities around puberty, emotional and bodily changes, public and private places and public and private body parts/touch.

If young people can start their transition into adulthood with good information and the confidence and knowledge to understand what is happening to them, they will hopefully grow into confident and healthy adults able to make positive choices. This can start with learning the basics about growing up and the sessions in school may reinforce what you are already doing at home.

The key aims of RSE are to:

- To enable our pupils to better understand the nature of different types of human relationships (e.g. friendships, work/romantic relationships etc);
- To enable pupils to see the importance of stable loving relationships and different forms they take
- To prepare pupils for the changes that occurs to their bodies, minds and emotions as a consequence of growth from childhood to adulthood.
- To develop skills and correct their misconceptions around RSE
- To provide access to information and facilities
- To enhance pupil safety and provide protection from abuse
- To give our students the skills, knowledge and understanding to be happy, fulfilled and independent individuals in adult life.

At Hazelbeck RSE teaching and learning will be through the Understanding the World curriculum and PSHE curriculum using a variety of Schemes of work units for Relationship and Sex Education. Staff ensure students have the opportunity to develop relationships and increase their engagement with others and the world

around them at a developmentally appropriate level. An emphasis on teaching about safe, appropriate behavior in public and personal safety will ensure that they have access to the wider community. We aim to give our students the skills, knowledge and understanding to be happy, fulfilled and independent individuals in adult life.

A variety of teaching and learning strategies are used to deliver RSE with PSHE which take into account pupils' age, development, understanding and needs. Pupils will need to work in a safe, secure climate to be able to explore their own and others' attitudes, values and skills. Teaching may take place with individuals, small groups and single gender groups to meet the needs of our pupils appropriately, taking into account cultural and religious diversity. All materials used will reflect the multi-cultural society in which we live in and staff will ensure resources used are sensitive to racial and gender stereotyping.

Parents can withdraw their children from all or part of sex education that does not form part of the statutory National Curriculum. Relationships education is a statutory requirement for our young people and they cannot be withdrawn from these lessons. If a parent decides to withdraw their child/young person from the schools sex and relationship education they have a legal obligation to provide their child/young person with RSE education.

We will be holding a parents meeting on the **Friday 12th November at 9.15** where the Headteacher and the RSE co-ordinator will be available to answer your questions, to discuss the programme or to view any of the teaching materials which may be used.

If you would like to attend please can you e-mail Emily on becejw@beckfoot.org by Thursday 11th November.

Yours sincerely

Beth McPhail