

## Relationships & Sex Education (RSE)



At South Molton Community Primary School, we teach Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity. To ensure a consistent approach, with a shared language and understanding at its centre, we introduced the **Jigsaw Programme** last year. The programme offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area. The overview of the programme can be seen on the school website.

The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education. They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools. The DfE Guidance 2019 recommends that all primary schools 'have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils' and 'should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings - drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science.'

At South Molton Community Primary School, we believe children should understand the facts about human reproduction before they leave primary school so we teach this within our science curriculum as part of our mammalian reproduction and life cycles units. We define Sex Education at our school as the conception of babies. We intend to teach this alongside our science curriculum in the form of PSHE. Conception is covered in single annual sessions from year 4 to 6 during the Changing Me Puzzle (Unit). As this is part of PSHE, parents have the right to withdraw their child from these single lessons if they wish.

Puberty is taught as a statutory requirement of Health Education and covered by our Jigsaw PSHE Programme in the 'Changing Me' Puzzle (unit) alongside our science curriculum within human reproduction and life cycles. We conclude that sex education refers to the conception of babies and therefore, although we see this content as a valuable and important part of our children's education, inform parents of their right to request their child be withdrawn from the PSHE lessons that explicitly teach this. The following three lessons from Year 4, 5 and 6 Jigsaw Changing Me Puzzle (unit) are open to parents withdrawing their children if they wish. Please complete the slip below if you have a child/children in Year 4, 5 or 6 and wish to withdraw them from the relevant lesson.

- Year 4, Lesson 2 (Having a baby)
- Year 5, Lesson 4 (Conception)
- Year 6, Lesson 3 (Babies: Conception to Birth)

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**If you would like to withdraw your child from this lesson please contact the school office by Monday 5th June 2023.**