

Dear Parents and Carers,

As per our parent consultation in November 2020, you will be aware as a part of your child's educational experience at Clifford Road Primary School, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensively taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. This is done through following the Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work. Further details of the coverage of this scheme can be found in the PSHE and RSHE Policy which is available to view on our school website.

Relationships and Health Education

In September 2020 the Department for Education made Relationships and Health Education compulsory in all primary schools. All schools are required to comply with these updated requirements. Further to this, sex education 'should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born'. At Clifford Road, we believe children should understand the facts about human reproduction before they leave primary school and concur with the view of Jigsaw that, after scrutinising the statutory guidance, the definition of Sex Education in primary schools consists of 'human reproduction' (e.g. understanding human reproduction).

We intend to teach this through the PSHE curriculum, using the detailed lesson plans provided in the Jigsaw scheme of work. Across the second half of the summer term all classes will be taught the 'Changing Me' unit from the Jigsaw scheme of work.

What will your child be learning and when?

The grids below show a brief summary of the "Changing Me" unit in Jigsaw with respect to what is taught – when, relating to Puberty and Human Reproduction.

Puberty and Human Reproduction in Jigsaw 3-11		
FS	Growing Up	How we have changed since we were babies
Y1	My changing body	Understanding that growing and changing is natural and happens to everybody at different rates
	Boys' and girls' bodies	Appreciating the parts of the body that make us different and using the correct names for them
Y2	The changing me	Where am I on the journey from young to old, and what changes can I be proud of?
	Boys and girls	Differences between boys and girls – how do we feel about them? Which parts of me are private?
Y3	Outside body changes	How our bodies need to change so they can make babies when we grow up – outside changes and how we feel about them
	Inside body changes	How our bodies need to change so they can make babies when we grow up – inside changes and how we feel about them (animations used – shorter version Female and Male Reproductive Systems)

Puberty and Human Reproduction in Jigsaw 3-11		
Y4	Having a baby	The choice to have a baby, the parts of men and women that make babies and – in simple terms – how this happens (animations used – the Female Reproductive System)
	Girls and puberty	How a girl's body changes so that she can have a baby when she's an adult – including menstruation (animations used – the Female Reproductive System)
Y5	Puberty for girls	Physical changes and feelings about them – importance of looking after yourself (animations used – the Female Reproductive System)
	Puberty for boys	Developing understanding of changes for both sexes – reassurance and exploring feelings (animations used – the Male Reproductive System)
	Conception	Understanding the place of sexual intercourse in a relationship and how it can lead to conception and the wonder of a new life (animations used – the Female and Male Reproductive Systems)
Y6	Puberty	Consolidating understanding of physical and emotional changes and how they affect us (animations used – the Female and Male Reproductive Systems)
	Girl talk / boy talk	A chance to ask questions and reflect (single sex) (animations used – the Female and Male Reproductive Systems)
	Conception to birth	The story of pregnancy and birth (animations used – the Female and Male Reproductive Systems)

Parents' right to request their child be withdrawn from Sex Education

1. Puberty

Teaching children about puberty is now **a statutory requirement** in primary schools, which sits within the Health Education part of the DfE guidance within the 'Changing adolescent body' strand. At Clifford Road, puberty is covered by our Jigsaw PSHE Programme in the 'Changing Me' unit. **Parents do not have the right to withdraw children from these lessons as they are part of the DfE statutory guidance.**

2. Sex Education

At Clifford Road we believe that knowledge empowers and protects children as long as it is age-appropriate. At secondary school Sex Education is statutory and we believe that primary schools should prepare children with accurate knowledge about puberty and human reproduction before they transfer to secondary school.

At Clifford Road we do this by:

- Using the correct terminology for body parts is introduced early to normalise this biological vocabulary and to support safeguarding. These words are not used in isolation but always in conjunction, ensuring children know these are private parts of their bodies.
- Introducing puberty gently in Y3 because some girls start their periods this early and it is necessary to prepare them for this, so they are not scared or worried.
- Conception is introduced age-appropriately in Y4 in the context of understanding why our bodies change during puberty.
- Understanding of human reproduction, conception and puberty is built upon in Year 5 and then puberty, conception and childbirth is age-appropriately covered in Y6.

Parents can request to withdraw their child from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory Relationships and Sex Education – these elements are highlighted on the grid above in red text. If you wish to request to withdraw your child, please arrange an appointment with Mr Wood to discuss this further.

Attached to this letter is a knowledge and skills progression document for the "Changing Me" topic which will be taught after half term. This outlines the key vocabulary used in your child's year group and suggestions for family learning. I hope that you will find this document helpful and that it will support you in any further discussions your child may have at home regarding their PSHE learning during the summer term.

Further information

To help you understand the curriculum requirements I would encourage you to read the information on our school website (<https://www.cliffordroadschool.org.uk/pshe/>)

This includes:

- Jigsaw information leaflet for parents
- RSHE – A guide for parents and carers
- Our (Draft) PSHE and RSHE Policy

Best Wishes

Miss Jane Warner – PSHE Lead