



September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a part of your child's education at Holy Family, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic (PSHCE) education programme. PSHCE education gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential. In this way, we are fulfilling our stated mission to "ensure that each child realises their full potential, growing in wisdom and grace."

As you may be aware, the government has published new guidance on what schools should teach and the legal duties with which schools must comply, when teaching Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education. At Holy Family, the curriculum content has been carefully audited and planned to ensure that, as stated in the guidance: "all of the compulsory subject content must be age appropriate and developmentally appropriate. It must be taught sensitively and inclusively, with respect to the backgrounds and beliefs of pupils and parents while always with the aim of providing pupils with the knowledge they need of the law"

This guidance can be found in full at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/relationships-and-sex-education-rse-secondary>

Along with the fortnightly discreet PSHCE lesson, aspects of the PSHE curriculum, including RSHE are delivered in other subjects, notably in Science, Technology (Food and Nutrition), PE and RE lessons. The Relationship and Sex Education curriculum delivered in RE lessons is largely made up of a programme of study called 'Life to the Full' including Cinema in education, created by Ten:Ten. This curriculum has been endorsed by the Catholic Education Service and Leeds Diocese. All resources are inspired by faith and rooted in scripture.

We recognise that parents and carers are the primary educators of their children. As a Catholic school, we provide the principal means by which the Church assists parents and carers in educating their children. One way in which the school will support parents and carers is by ensuring the Ten:Ten Parent Portal is available on the Holy Family Website. This Parent Portal includes a sample of resources for you to view and discuss with your child should you wish. <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

Username: opp-holyfam-14

Password: rse-parent-purple

Parents continue to have the right to withdraw their children from some aspects of Sex Education except in those elements which are required by the National Curriculum for science. Should parents be considering withdrawing their child, they are asked to contact the head teacher in order to discuss this further. We believe that the safe and supportive environment of the school and in particular the Religious Education classroom is the safest place for this curriculum to be followed.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents/carers. We will be consulting on our RSE policy this year with all stakeholders and are looking for parents to get involved. Initially we are setting up a working group to finalise a draft policy to present to all stakeholders. If you would like to be involved, have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please contact me by emailing; enquiry@hollyfamilycarlton.org

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Selway

Head of RE /PSHCE and RSE Coordinator