

# Foxdell Schools Federation



18 June 2021

Dear Families,

## Relationships and Health Education Policy and Resources: Response to Parents/Carers consultation

Thank you to our parents and carers for your considered and detailed responses to our RHE consultation across the Federation (21.5.21-7.6.21). We received over 100 responses both online and in hard copy form. We have read and understood each individual response and have detailed below the common themes raised and how we have addressed them within the curriculum.

**The majority of parents/ carers (74%) have said no changes or additions are needed to the draft policy that was shared.** Those that have said changes are needed, are covered in the areas identified below.

**1. Parents raised concerns around the teaching of 'sex education' to children at primary school age.**

This not a statutory requirement at primary school age therefore, Foxdell Federation has made the decision not to teach any sex education content to our children. This will *not* be covered in either the Infant school or the junior school.

**2. Parents are unsure what is covered under the teaching of reproduction in the science curriculum.**

Reproduction has been a compulsory part of the science curriculum (from Year 1) since 2014. This is not sex education. The table shows where information about body parts and/or reproduction will be taught in each year group. Please see the [government website](#) for more information.

Year Group	Statutory Coverage in the Science Curriculum
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pupils should be taught to identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense</li><li>Pupils should have plenty of opportunities to learn the names of the main body parts (including head, neck, arms, elbows, legs, knees, face, ears, eyes, hair, mouth, teeth) through games, actions, songs and rhymes</li></ul>
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pupils should be taught to notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults</li><li>The following examples might be used: egg, chick, chicken; egg, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly; spawn, tadpole, frog; lamb, sheep. Growing into adults can include reference to baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult</li></ul>
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pupils should be taught to identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement</li></ul>
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans</li></ul>
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. They should observe life-cycle changes in a variety of living things, for example, plants in the vegetable garden or flower border, and animals in the local environment</li><li>Describe the changes as humans develop to old age e.g. by finding out and recording the length and mass of a baby as it grows</li></ul>
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pupils should be taught to recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents</li><li>They should also appreciate that variation in offspring over time can make animals more or</li></ul>

	less able to survive in particular environments, for example, by exploring how giraffes' necks got longer, or the development of insulating fur on the arctic fox
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**3. Parents had concerns about the teaching of LGBT relationships.**

The RHE curriculum does not specifically teach about LGBT relationships. It does cover the fact that families can look different, for example, children may be brought up by grandparents, families may have adopted children, there may be single parent families or that some families may have the same gender parents. The RHE curriculum states that in all families there is care and love. This is linked to the Equality Act 2010 and schools have to comply with this. Staff will not be promoting any particular type of family and will not be using any terms related to LGBT in any way.

**4. Some parents would like to see the images/resources that are going to be shared with their children.**

The resources (including lesson plans) have been made available to parents since the 21st May 2021 on the school website ([juniors](#), [Infants](#)). All images shared are illustrations and not photographs. If parents would like to view teaching resources and the images to be shared with children, they are welcome to make an appointment with a member of the leadership team to visit school.

**5. Parents questioned at what age their child would be taught specific content.**

We have carefully considered the RHE curriculum taking into account the religious and cultural makeup of our community. Everything that will be taught is a statutory requirement identified by the government for primary aged children; please see the government [website](#) for more information.

**6. Parents asked if they could withdraw their child from RHE lessons.**

Parent have the [right to withdraw](#) their primary school age pupils from sex education lessons however, as there will be no sex education covered at Foxdell, all lessons are statutory and parents cannot withdraw their children.

**7. Some parents have requested that we teach the [NSPCC Pants Rule](#).**

The 'Pants Rule' forms a key part of the safeguarding agenda at Foxdell and therefore we will continue to teach this. Everything that we teach, informs part of the statutory Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and the Science Curriculum. Our priority is to ensure that we promote the personal wellbeing and development of all pupils.

Following on from the consultation process and conversations with governors, we will ensure that we teach our RHE curriculum sensitively and using age appropriate materials. We hope that this information has answered your queries and concerns however, please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you would like to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Nisar  
Acting Headteacher



Mrs A Khan  
Chair of Governors