



# Relationship Education to help keep children safer

Information for Parents & Carers of children in Primary Schools

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are pleased to inform you that we will be having 'Big Talk Education' in school to deliver Sex and Relationships to children on **Tuesday 23rd January 2024**.

Although delivering 'Sex' education in Primary schools is not compulsory, as a school we feel that delivering Sex Education is a vital part of preparing children for the future and making them aware now of what is appropriate and what is not appropriate. **This session is delivered by Big Talk but teachers will be revisiting the content taught throughout the academic year. We therefore ask that any parents who do not wish for their child to be part of Sex Education in school please puts this in writing to Mrs K Steward by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Please also be aware that the content covered under the Science curriculum is compulsory and children can not be withdrawn from this.**

**The information below will provide you with the content covered for the different age groups and I have provided you with some links to the Big Talk website that you may find useful:**

In response to our changing society and the impact of the Internet, Government have introduced statutory **Relationship Education** to Primary Schools, these lessons are not new and have been delivered in good Primary Schools since the last guidance in 2000, however some of the content has now been updated to help keep children safer.

School is here to help; we are engaging the support of the specialist organisation BigTalk Education, who are a Social Enterprise recognised by national leading bodies and government. They work with 3 to 18 year olds and have been involved in delivering age appropriate education of this type for over 20 years, they also deliver training for Professionals, Parents & Carers.

Below is some information on the Growing Up Safe programme that will be delivered to the Children by BigTalk Education, it reflects the **Ofsted & SEF** (the National Children's Bureau's Sex Education Forum) recommendations.

- **Age 3 Nursery** A fun learning environment where the children are taught the differences between boys and girls, naming body parts, correct scientific words, private areas of the body, good touches and bad touches.
- **Ages 4 to 8 (Reception School Years 1, 2 & 3)** Re-enforces and checks what was covered in Nursery, using specially designed child friendly resources. At the end of this session they will be able to identify happy situations and those which may be risky (e.g. other children or adults taking improper photographs of them, inappropriate touches, exposure to unsuitable media etc.) plus who they can talk to if they are worried.
- **Ages 8 to 9 (School Year 4)** We cover different kinds of families, similarities and differences between boys and girls, the emotional and physical changes of growing up (puberty) how babies are made, then develop in the womb (reproduction). Looking after our bodies and how to be safe and healthy are also discussed.
- **Ages 9 to 11 (School Years 5 & 6)** Reproduction and puberty are re-capped, the children are given the opportunity to ask questions. As well as additional questions on puberty, they will often want more details on how babies develop and are born. It is important that they know there is someone in school as well as at home if they want help, advice or more information. (Information at this stage is vital to protect them as they move onto Secondary School and to provide an alternative to Google etc.



All the resources BigTalk Education use are age appropriate and help keep children protected from unwanted touches, abuse and exposure to unsuitable images etc. Research now shows that children receiving this type of education are three times more likely to speak out if they are touched inappropriately.

Further information on the above can be found on: [www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/parents](http://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/parents)  
The video Parent presentations <https://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/year-by-year/> can be viewed using the password: Happy&Safe

In addition, "**Bodies, Babies and Bellybuttons**" is the Big Talk book which accompanies the Growing Up Safe programme. This is a great resource for parents and can be ordered online from [www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk](http://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk) on the Resources page.

If you have any additional concerns or questions you wish to ask, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Mrs S Stephenson (PSHE Lead)