28.02.2025

Dear parents and carers,

This term, as part of our spring term Right to be Safe and Healthy PSHE programme children across the school will receive sessions on the Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) element of the curriculum.

Our full curriculum and further resources can be found on the following webpages:

<https://www.stoswald-worl.cheshire.sch.uk/page/rshe/51129>

As part of the curriculum, Year 5/6 will focus on the following learning intentions:

Theme: Puberty and Reproduction

To describe how and why the body changes during puberty in preparation for reproduction.

To talk about puberty and reproduction with confidence.

To explain some differences between a healthy and unhealthy relationship.

To know that communication and permission seeking are important in relationships.

To describe the decisions that have to be made before having children.

To know some basic facts about conception and pregnancy.

To have considered when it is appropriate to share personal/private information in a relationship.

To know how and where to get support if an online relationship goes wrong.

At St Oswald’s, we have provided Relationship and Sex education for several years using the Christopher Winter Project Scheme of work and resources and will continue to do so with materials to ensure our curriculum meets government requirements. These resources deliver content that is both age appropriate and developmentally appropriate. Lessons will continue to 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.

We believe that to embrace the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life, pupils need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy. Relationship education can support our young people to develop resilience, to know how and when to ask for help, and to know where to access support.

We understand that some families can be concerned about what their child will be learning in these sessions and are more than happy to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. We are also happy to share the lesson materials with you in advance of their delivery. In line with DFE requirements, children cannot be withdrawn from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe. If you do not want your child to take part in some or all of the lessons on Sex Education, you can ask that they are withdrawn. At primary school level, this should be agreed in writing with the Principal. The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.

If you’d like to know more about this, please speak with either myself or your child’s class teacher to understand what will be taught and when.

Many thanks for your continued support

Kind regards

Louise McDonough