

WOODHOUSE GROVE SCHOOL

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Dear Parent,

I write to inform you about our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Developments (SMSC) programme for all Year 8 students. Pupils will follow a series of lessons based around the three core themes recommended:

Health and Wellbeing	Living in the Wider World	Relationships (RSE)
Body Image	Internet Safety – what is online grooming	Healthy relationships?
How can self-confidence boost our achievement?	How can we care for our environment?	How do we keep good sexual health? Conception and contraception
Rachel Miller Story and Drugs	Stop the stare – changing faces	What is consent and why is it important?
Why do teenage parents have it so tough?	Running away from home	What is wrong with sending nudes and Why is it so risky to send personal images?
Stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice. Disability focus	Police – hoax phone calls	Stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice. Religion focus.
How can we look after others and ourselves in an emergency? Personal safety and first aid.	Homophobia	How can British Values teach us tolerance and respect?
Vaping and Alcohol Abuse?	Stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice.	Domestic conflict
What is mindfulness? How can this aid positive mental health.	Going too far – Hatred?	Peer pressure
Emotional literacy – why is self-awareness in our actions towards others so important?	Who are the extremist groups and why are they so dangerous?	What is Sexual Harassment?
Cancer Awareness.	Where does extremism come from?	Friendships
Why do people Self Harm?	Gaming and Gambling	

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These topics all provide opportunities for the pupil to grow and develop as individuals. They learn to work and discuss in groups and as a whole class unit thereby listening to other people's opinions and learning to work together.

As you may already be aware, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, has formed part of the National Curriculum. As part of our school's wider PSHCE programme, your child will soon receive age-appropriate lessons on relationships, sexual health and personal safety. We are still waiting for the Government to send out new guidelines but please be re-assured we work tirelessly to make sure the content is suitable for our students. The purpose of the upcoming curriculum is to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on respect. This is to encourage the development of safe and healthy relationships throughout life. The subject is designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships, and to thrive in modern Britain.

You can access all the RSE lesson content and the RSE Policy via Firefly.

You do have a right to withdraw your child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be granted up to three terms before your child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school must make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at secondary level and we believe the content of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught.

Our PSHEE and SMSC programme along with our shared values for Methodist education and broad curriculum compliment and reinforce our aims to provide students with a wider knowledge and understanding of many issues. We endeavour to ensure each individual develops the ability to deal with a variety of situations, moral and social dilemmas, develop skills, acquire knowledge and make informed choices and decisions so they grow into responsible citizens.

If you have any questions about the course, please do not hesitate to contact me. Yours sincerely

Mrs R Vernon Head of Wellbeing

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