



# Somerford Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs H Frampton

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As you may already be aware, the Department for Education has announced changes to relationships sex and health education (RSHE) following nationwide consultation. These changes need to be in effect by the summer term, when all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. We are keen to share what we are planning with you and understand your views on it.

The main change is that RSHE, or PSHE (physical, social and health education) as it's known in the classroom, has largely become a compulsory, foundation subject so it is now part of the National Curriculum which all schools need to follow. However, the sex education element at primary school is not compulsory. Where we cover this in the summer term, parents still have the option to withdraw their children from this by submitting a written request to Mrs Frampton.

We have always taught RSHE (PSHE) to our children at Somerford Primary through the Scheme of Work called Jigsaw and your children should be familiar with this. The relationships and sex education is part of a wider programme of personal social and health education (PSHE) which includes lessons throughout the year on topics like anti-bullying, healthy friendships, keeping our bodies fit and healthy, ways to look after our mental health, keeping safe and being kind on line and many more. Our aim is to carefully build on children's understandings of these things each year.

As part of our parental consultation process we invite you to have a look at the new draft RSHE policy. We are keen to work with you as much as possible in discussing how RSHE is delivered at Somerford. There may be questions or queries, which we hope you will raise with us. While most of our RSHE is required National Curriculum content now and we are unable to remove any of it, we do want to take on board feedback around how it is taught here and share all the information with you.

Please take the time to read through the draft policy on the website and email any questions or thoughts you may have to our school office email, [office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk) for the attention of Mrs Cook.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Many thanks

Mrs Cook

PSHE Leader