

09th October 2020

To: Parents and Carers of Years 7-11 Students

Dear Parent / Carer

You will be aware that, as a part of your child's educational experience at West Lakes Academy, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal Development education that gives our young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

From September 2020 the Department for Education is making Relationships Sex Education and Health Education compulsory in all schools.

What does the new guidance mean?

The new guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships. Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, it will give young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and will help them take responsibility for their own well-being. All of the sessions will be age-appropriate and meet the needs of all pupils in the class.

How will this be delivered?

This guidance will form part of our school's Personal Development education programme which is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and Governors.

For more detail about the proposed SRE Policy, please visit the school's website: <http://www.westlakesacademy.org.uk/category/announcements/>. All teaching in Personal Development will take place in a safe learning environment and be underpinned by our school ethos and values. A variety of opportunities will be provided for pupils to ask questions to further their understanding and to find out more about what affects them personally.

What if I have questions?

To introduce parents to this concept and to ensure everyone is informed, we would like you to review the draft policy and the statutory content of the relationships and sex education programme.

The draft policy also contains important information for parents who may wish to withdraw their children from these classes. .

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As a school community, we are committed to working with parents. If you would like to find out more, make any comments or provide feedback on this draft policy, please contact the Personal Development Coordinator, Ms Walter (walters@westlakesmat.org.uk). Alternatively, please provide your comments in an envelope for the attention of Ms Walter. The closing date for feedback is Friday 23rd October 2020.

Yours sincerely



Siobhain Walter

Personal Development Coordinator and Careers Lead

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