

FAQs from RSE Parent Forum – Wednesday 21st April

Is this curriculum new to the UK?

The curriculum isn't new but the option to opt out of all of the Relationships, Health and Puberty lessons has now changed. Parents are only able to opt children out of the Sex Education lessons (Year 4 and above).

Is it inappropriate for children aged 6,7,8 to be taught this?

The scheme we use at Oswald Road is very age appropriate and children are taught according to their development. As puberty can start from age 8, it is important that children are prepared for the changes their bodies will go through and know what to expect as they get older. Being taught at this age can help a lot of children to feel less confused about their changing bodies.

Can we see the planning?

Hard copies of planning can be sent home if requested.

Can parents still opt out for Years 5 & 6?

There is one lesson in Year 5 and one lesson in Year 6 that covers sex education. Parents can opt children out of this lesson only.

How do we opt out?

If you wish to opt your child out of the sex education lessons (Year 4 upwards only), please email Mrs Walker directly on f.walker@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk by 26th April.

When will children be taught these lessons?

Our Relationships topic is taught in Summer 1 (after Easter).

Our Changing Me topic is taught in Summer 2 (after May half term).

Why are there some lessons you can't opt out of?

The government has issued new guidance from September 2020 and all relationships, health and puberty lessons are now compulsory. As a school we are legally not able to change this.

Why should children as young as 8 be taught about puberty?

Puberty can start at aged 8, especially for girls. It is important that we prepare children for the changes that will take place in their bodies both physically and emotionally. It is important that we equip children with the correct information rather than them hearing mixed information from other sources.

If I have emailed will my child be opted out?

Yes, there will be a central record of children opting out of the sex education lessons. Class teachers will be informed. When you have emailed Mrs Walker, please expect a response within 2 days. If you do not receive a reply please email again or contact the school office.

How do we go about getting a hard copy of the planning?

Email Mrs Walker (f.walker@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk) directly if you would like a copy of our planning for your child's year group.