



23rd January 2017

Dear Parent,

Personal, Social, Health & Careers Education (PSHCE) Day 3 – Thursday 26th January

As you are aware, we deliver our Personal, Social, Health and Careers Education (which includes sex and relationships education) on five collapsed curriculum days throughout the year, when the normal timetable is suspended. We follow closely the national curriculum on these days, which includes a number of statutory (compulsory for us as a school) elements.

The topics we cover on these days include areas which will genuinely make a difference to the life choices your children make. We hope that this will mean that they will make positive, well informed choices which will lead to them becoming happy and well-rounded young people with high aspirations for themselves and others. We take our responsibility to educate our young people in a much broader sense (more than simply passing exams) very seriously.

As these days have so much vital information condensed into them, students who are absent will miss important information that could impact on future life choices which is vital to their wider education and well-being. As such, any child who is absent on a PSHCE day will need to catch this work up in four, one hour sessions after school when they return.

The third collapsed curriculum day of this academic year will be this Thursday, 26th January.

On this day:

- Year 7 will be discussing issues such as puberty, personal hygiene, smoking, and the importance of healthy relationships with adults
- Year 8 will explore different methods of contraception as part of their on-going sex education programme. In addition, they will take part in a session delivered by guest speakers from the Amy Winehouse Foundation which will encourage them to make more informed lifestyle choices, specifically focusing on alcohol and alcohol use.
- Year 9 will be looking into the options process on which they are shortly due to embark in school. This session should form part of their overall options understanding and will prepare them for further information gathering at Options Evening on Thursday 2nd February.
- Year 10 will investigate the ongoing expectations of the Duke of Edinburgh Award as well as building on the drugs education they have received in the past. Students will also look into the important issue of consent as part of their relationship education.
- Year 11 will be looking into some of the key aspects of dealing with their own financial futures, including a look at the implications of post-18 student finance so that our students don't automatically rule this out as a potential pathway based on misconceptions about student debt. We will also look at the challenges of budgeting to run their own home and an introduction to the challenges of finding and affording a home to rent or buy.

Students should report to their tutor group at the beginning of the day to receive their personalised programme.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Gwinnett for Miss A Begolo
Head of Humanities and Acting Head of RE and PSHCE

Mrs L A Gwinnett
Headteacher

Outstanding education at the heart of the community