

Dear Parents/Carers,

February 2026

As part of the PSHE curriculum, students in Year 8 and Year 9 study a series of modules on Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). These lessons are an important part of our statutory duty to ensure all young people receive accurate, age-appropriate education that supports their safety, wellbeing and personal development.

In Term 4, all Year 8 students will begin the first modules of the RSE programme. These sessions will cover different types of relationships, consent, healthy relationship characteristics and an introduction to contraception. As students progress into Year 9, the programme builds on this foundation.

They will explore what constitutes an unhealthy relationship, relevant aspects of the law, sexually transmitted infections (including HIV and AIDS), and the issues surrounding pornography and its impact on young people. These topics are taught sensitively and are designed to help students recognise risks, understand their rights, and know how to seek help if needed.

Under current legislation, parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from the sex education elements of RSE. This does not apply to the statutory relationships content, which all students are required to take part in. If you wish to withdraw your child from the sex education lessons, please inform the school before **Friday 27th February**. If we do not hear from you by this date, we will assume you are happy for your child to participate in these sessions.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Michelle Dempsey  
Head of Year 7  
Head of PSHE