



Department
for Education

ST MARK'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY
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Wednesday 20th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

IMPORTANT CONSULTATION: Statutory 'Relationships, Sex and Health Education' (RSE) at St Mark's Academy

I do trust that you and your families are keeping well, safe and strong in this time.

As I made you aware at the end of February, from September 2020 it will be compulsory for all schools to deliver a new statutory Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSE) curriculum. The aim of the curriculum is that schools must provide age appropriate lessons that will enable pupils to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy in making decisions about risks, challenges and complex situations. It is a safeguarding curriculum that builds pupils' resilience, skills and confidence to access support when needed.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers. Although we are not in a position to hold face-to-face consultation meetings with you about the new curriculum at present (due to the COVID-19 lockdown, we were unable to host the meeting that was scheduled for March 26th and we are still not able to meet until further notice), we still think it is important for us to begin our consultation about the new curriculum and to highlight the essential role that parents have as educators in these subjects. We have created:

- A draft of our RSE policy that we would like you to read in detail (attached)
- A Parents and Carers RSE Consultation Survey that we would like you to complete online by **Wednesday 10th June**.
Link to the survey:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=OsUz3dPv5Uqw8vNv85wbnSb-Jk8_ivBLpzslEgkvoNUOTdBUDIQVE5VOVdGTFhMR0xFOUg2WVl4MC4u
- A Student RSE Consultation Survey that we would like your child who attends St Mark's to complete online by **Wednesday 10th June**.
Link to the survey:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=OsUz3dPv5Uqw8vNv85wbnSb-Jk8_ivBLpzslEgkvoNUMjVJRUIRQVJHUVRyT0wwNFVvVdC0SkI5NC4u
- A PowerPoint with Parent and Carer Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and answers from the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (attached)

We really appreciate your time in this important process. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at: awignal@stmarksacademy.org.uk. Remember, the deadlines for both the parent and student surveys are Monday 8th June and we would appreciate if they could be completed by this date. Following your feedback, we can then progress to the next stage of consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Rev Andrew Wignal
Director of Personal Development

Principal Lisa Peterkin



The Diocese of
Southwark



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