



RALPH THORESBY SCHOOL

Ambition and Achievement for All

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may already be aware, schools have a legal duty to provide Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education to all students. Ralph Thoresby School takes its responsibility to provide relevant, effective and responsible (RSE) very seriously. As a school we want parents/carers and students to feel assured that RSE will be delivered at a level appropriate to both the age and development of students, and safe to voice opinions and concerns relating to the RSE provision.

As part of our school's wider Citizenship and Science curriculum, your child will continue to receive lessons on relationships, sexual health and personal safety. These lessons are, and will continue to be, taught by specialist teachers and will allow your child to understand how to be safe and healthy as they grow older.

Schools are required to consult parents when developing and reviewing their policies for Relationships Education and RSE, which will inform the schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered. There have been some changes to our curriculum in Citizenship and the new curriculum model can be found on the Curriculum pages of the RTS website.

You do have a right to withdraw your child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be granted up to three terms before your child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wished to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16- the legal age of sexual consent. There are currently three lessons across Years 7-11 that students can be withdrawn from, details about these can be found on the Relationships and Sex Education page of our school website. If you would like to withdraw from these lessons, please review the policy available on our website which outlines how to do this.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at secondary level and we believe the content of these subjects- such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety)- are important for all children to be taught.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me on cbell@ralphthoresby.com

Yours faithfully,

Chloe Bell

Chloe Bell
Assistant Headteacher

