



**Wellbeing Curriculum**  
**Year 6 Term 6**

*Our school's vision for our Wellbeing Curriculum is that children are able to keep themselves physically, mentally and emotionally safe and healthy, throughout their lives. They will do this by developing the skills and knowledge they need to make informed choices, build healthy & positive relationships and by knowing where to seek help when it is needed.*

*If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the Wellbeing Curriculum please contact the Wellbeing Lead, Mr Wheeler, through the school office for further information, clarification and support.*

**This term we will be learning...**

- How to manage change, including moving to secondary school
- Where and how to get support, information and advice about growing up and changing
- About how growing up and becoming independent brings increased opportunities and responsibilities
- That friendships may change as they grow up and how to manage this
- To review the changes they will experience during puberty
- About the reproductive organs and process— how babies are conceived and born; and how they need to be cared for

**Key Vocabulary we will learn and use...**

*Change, maturity, transition, emotions, responsibility, sexual intercourse, conception, puberty, testicles, penis, sperm, vagina, womb, ovary, egg, fallopian tube*

**Points to note— Can I withdraw my child from these lessons?**

"The Department continues to recommend that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born"

The vast majority of the Relationships, Sex and Health Education curriculum is compulsory. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships or Health education, and the only parts of Sex Education that children may be withdrawn from is that taught outside of the National Curriculum for Science. This would include any teaching on how to prevent a pregnancy or Assisted Conception. There are detrimental effects to children missing these lessons, for example from them hearing a secondhand version of what was taught from their peers, rather than what was actually delivered by the teacher.

**If any parent/carer wishes to request their child is excused, they need to make an appointment to discuss this with Mrs Pocock.**

**Points to note— Teaching about Conception**

Parents /Carers will receive notification prior to these lessons happening so that you can be prepared for any questions they may ask you or any follow up discussions they wish to have with a trusted adult at home. Children will always be encouraged to seek support from you if they need it or have questions we are not able to answer as a part of our curriculum. All lessons will begin with a reminder of the ground rules to ensure children feel safe and comfortable to take part and ask questions if they wish. We will make use of 'Ask it baskets' or 'Question boxes' for the children to ask their questions in a confidential way. This also gives teachers the opportunity to review questions and ensure the content is appropriate to discussion in a Year 6 classroom. These lessons will make use of scientific terminology and will be factual and non-judgemental. As part of these lessons it may be necessary to acknowledge that 1. People can have sex in different ways, including between 2 men and 2 women 2. People do not always have intercourse to make a baby but may also enjoy sex for pleasure 3. People can conceive a baby through assisted conception such as IVF.

### Points to note– How will questions be answered

It is important children have opportunities to have their genuine questions answered in a sensitive and matter of fact way. We make use of anonymous boxes so that teachers can view questions and consider responses, taking into account the needs of all pupils and seeking support if necessary, before responding. Occasionally children do ask particularly explicit or embarrassing questions. Teachers will use their skill and discretion to decide which questions to answer and how. We may make children aware that what they have asked will be answered later in the school year, in another year group or later in the education. They may also be referred to ask a parent or trusted adult at home if they are concerned or interested in something that is inappropriate to cover with the whole class. Our safeguarding policy and procedures will be followed if a question or discussion gives any staff member cause for concern about the safety of a child. Our ground rules help to ensure questions are appropriate by reminding children that...

- We use agreed/ scientifically correct vocabulary
- We will not ask, or have to answer, personal questions
- We will allow others to learn at their pace

Some questions, whilst commonly asked, may be deemed inappropriate to be answered in a whole class setting depending on the needs and abilities of the class. Teachers will always use their judgement about this. All staff in the school receive training yearly on this area of the curriculum and the ways we should respond to questions.

### Some examples of questions that have been asked previously and the suggested responses...

Pupil: 'Why do boys' willies get bigger?'

Teacher: 'Remember that we have agreed to use scientific language in these lessons. Try again using the correct anatomical word.'

Pupil: 'Miss, when did you start your periods?'

Teacher: 'Remember that we agreed not to ask any personal questions – that includes me too! Most girls start their periods at around age 10-11.'

Pupil: 'Can you catch HIV through oral sex?'

Teacher: 'That's a question that you will find out the answer to when you are in secondary school. It is a little advanced for our lessons this year, but if you are still curious to know the answer, you could ask an adult at home.'

Pupil: 'Why do people enjoy sex so much?'

Teacher: 'Because it makes them feel good, as it involves the penis and clitoris being touched.'

Pupil: 'What is masturbation?'

Teacher: 'When a person has some time to themselves, in a private place, and they touch their penis or clitoris in a way that feels good.'

Pupil: 'Why do some young people have sex before it is legal?'

Teacher: 'It is quite normal to feel a pleasurable sensation in the penis or clitoris from a young age. As an adolescent person gets older this may make them feel like they want to have sex so that they can enjoy more of this physical feeling. But it is important for a person to wait until they are at least 16 before they go through with this so that they can decide fully if they trust and feel comfortable with the other person they are thinking about having sex with.'