

# Relationship Education to help keep children safer

## Information for Parents/Carers of children in Primary Schools

In response to our changing society and the impact of the Internet, Government has now decided to introduce statutory Relationship Education to Primary Schools, these lessons are not new and have been delivered in most Primary Schools since the last guidance in 2000, however some of the content has now been updated to help keep children safer.

School is here to help; we are engaging the support of the specialist organisation BigTalk Education, whose expertise was sought by the MPs on the Women & Equalities Committee in 2016. They work with 3 ~ 18 year olds and have been involved in delivering age appropriate education of this type for over 20 years, they also deliver training for Professionals, Parents & Carers.

Below is the Programme that will be delivered to the Children by BigTalk, it reflects the **Ofsted & SEF recommendations**.

### Age 3 Nursery

A fun learning environment where the children are taught the differences between boys and girls, naming body parts, correct scientific words, what areas of the body are private, good touches and bad touches

**Ages 4-8 (Reception ~ School Years 1, 2 & 3)** Re-enforces and checks what was covered in Nursery. Using specially designed child friendly resources at the end of this session they will be able to identify happy situations and those which may be risky (e.g. other children or adults taking improper photographs of them, inappropriate touches, exposure to unsuitable media etc.) plus who they can talk to if they are worried.

**Ages 8-9 (School Year 4)** We cover different kinds of families (same sex parents, foster families etc.) the emotional and physical changes of growing up, similarities and differences between boys and girls including transgender, coping with different emotions, looking after our bodies as they change and the onset of periods (puberty) How babies are made from ovums and sperm, then develop in the womb (reproduction). How to be safe and healthy linking back to and building on identifiable risks, we also strengthen awareness of "our body is our own" and personal safety especially on-line grooming, etc.

**Ages 9-11 (School Years 5 & 6)** Reproduction, puberty, consent and personal safety are re-visited, knowledge retained can be checked with our "Quick Quiz". An "Ask it Basket" session (anonymous questions) gives the children more opportunity to ask the Team what they want to know, we actively encourage this as opposed to children choosing to find their own answers on the Internet. They will often want more details on conception, how babies develop and are born. Sometimes they ask how people can get germs from sex and how they can be prevented or there may be curiosity about feelings or body image, each group is different. Again, it is important they know there is someone in school as well as at home if they want help or information about puberty, reproduction etc. (Information at this stage is vital to protect them as they move onto Senior School

All the resources BigTalk Education use are age appropriate and help keep children protected from unwanted touches, abuse, unsuitable images etc. Research now shows that children receiving this type of education are three times more likely to speak out if they are touched inappropriately etc.

Please come along to the **Parent Information Session on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 5.30pm** when a Facilitator from BigTalk Education will cover in greater detail what is included and the vital role that Parents/Carers can play in keeping their children safe both now and into their teenage years. There will also be an opportunity to ask any questions as a small group or individually

**The book that accompanies this Programme "Bodies, Babies and Bellybuttons" will be available to purchase at the meeting at the discounted price of £8 (20% reduction on the usual on-line price of £9.99)**

.....**Tear off complete and return** .....

I will be attending the meeting for Parent/Carers on .....

My Name .....

Name(s) of child(ren) .....Year Group(s) .....

