



## Audlem St. James' C of E Primary School

*'Let your light shine'*  
*Matthew 5:16*



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10<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As a part of your child's educational experience at Audlem St. James CE Primary School, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

As you may already be aware, the Department for Education has announced changes to relationships and sex education following nationwide consultation. These changes came into effect from September 2020 and all schools are required to comply with the updated requirements. The statutory guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

The new guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships. Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up will give children and young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

Consequently, from September 2020, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, is statutory, and forms part of the National Curriculum.

This means that we have been reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our RSE provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- Age
- Physical and emotional maturity
- Religious and cultural backgrounds
- Special educational needs and abilities

Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our school's decisions on when and how certain content is covered.





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Consequently, as part of our curriculum review we would welcome your views on:

- Our draft policy for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE Policy)
- When and how certain content within this subject is covered (RSE Curriculum).

What is taught, and how, is ultimately a decision for the school and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content as schools are legally required to teach the National Curriculum. The right to withdraw children from some lessons is explained in the FAQs which accompanies this letter.

We are currently in unprecedented times, however, as a school community, which makes it a little more challenging to consult with you. Therefore, to help you understand the curriculum requirements, I have placed information on our website which I would encourage you to read. This includes:

- A summary of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of primary school (RSE Curriculum)
- FAQ sheet
- Our proposed draft Policy (RSE Policy)
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements
- A PowerPoint presentation for parents, which unfortunately I cannot now share with you in person
- A confidential questionnaire which can be accessed by following this link: [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AudlemRSEParentConsultation](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AudlemRSEParentConsultation)

Audlem St. James CE Primary School will be starting their consultation process through the survey on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021; the consultation will close on the **31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**. During this period, we invite parents to read the suggested documents and provide feedback to us by way of the survey link.

### **These are the consultation questions contained within the survey:**

1. Would you like support, at home, on how to speak to your child about relationships and sex?
2. Having read the RSE Policy we have sent to you, are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Policy?
3. If yes, please explain the changes or additions you think should be made to the RSE Policy.
4. Having read the RSE Curriculum (Appendix 1 - Curriculum map within the RSE Policy document), are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Curriculum?
5. If yes, please explain the changes or additions you think should be made to the RSE Curriculum.
6. Thinking about the areas the government say children should know by the end of Primary School (Appendix 2 within the RSE Policy document), are there any areas you feel should be a priority to be taught for different age groups/key stages?
7. Which year groups do you currently have children in at Audlem St James Primary School?





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Your views are very important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process later next term. Once we have considered all the feedback, the updated Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the school's website which will also set out the proposed curriculum and how you can feedback further.

I hope this letter and attached information goes some way to alleviate any worries you may have. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Perry  
Headteacher

