

 **The Garibaldi School**
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13th September 2023

Dear Parent /Carer

As a part of your child's education at The Garibaldi School, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education programme; this is known as Personal Development. Personal Development is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to be safe, healthy and meet their full potential.

A key element of our Personal Development curriculum is Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). From September 2020 the Government made the delivery of RSE mandatory however, parents and carers do have the right to withdraw students from RSE sessions. In the event a student is withdrawn from RSE, an alternative provision will be provided on other aspects of Personal Development. For more information, please see the Government guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

At The Garibaldi School RSE lessons are delivered to all year groups, including Sixth Form. Examples of topics covered within each year group can be seen below:

- **Year 7:** Healthy relationships, private parts of the body, friendships, staying safe online, family dynamics, relationship breakdown, child-on-child abuse
- **Year 8:** Teenage family life, romantic relationships, sexuality and diverse relationships, marriage, contraception, male circumcision, consent, STIs (including HIV/ AIDS), intimacy without sex, body changes
- **Year 9:** Risks involved in sexual relationships, consent, HIV and AIDS, Female Genital Mutilation, LGBTQ+, marriage breakdown, domestic abuse, sex in the media, porn and real-life expectations, consequences of unplanned pregnancy
- **Year 10:** Child sexual exploitation and coercion, Female Genital Mutilation, sexting and the law, different types of contraception, different STIs and their effects, teen pregnancy (including healthy pregnancy), Child-on-child abuse, porn in the media
- **Year 11:** Healthy and unhealthy relationships, sexual health (recap) and contraception (including emergency contraception and abortion), Female Genital Mutilation, child on child abuse, consent, legally recognised marriages and sexual assault
- **Sixth Form:** Consent, STIs and contraception (including emergency contraception and abortion), the life changes involved in having children, sex and the law for 18-year-old students, sexting, sex and the importance of age, pornography vs. real-life sex, Female Genital Mutilation (including breast ironing), legally recognised marriages

The Personal development curriculum is taught by Mentors, who know their mentees as individuals and is underpinned by our school ethos and values.

Further information regarding the personal development curriculum can found at: <https://www.garibaldischool.co.uk/page.php?d=pshce&p=curriculum>.

As a school, we have worked hard to ensure that the following are taken into consideration and are embedded into our school curriculum:

1. Our values of equality, inclusion and respect for all students and communities
2. Age-appropriate information guided by external SRE professionals, as well as the consideration of maturity levels, their cultural and religious backgrounds
3. Every students' learning needs including special educational needs
4. What students need to know in order to live healthy lives and stay safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider world.

We are inviting you to take part in a parent consultation regarding our RSE curriculum. The consultation is your opportunity to withdraw your child from the sex module of Sex and Relationships (unless you have already done so). The deadline for responses is **Monday 25th September 2023** please click on the link [consultation form](#) to complete the consultation form. We will consider responses to the consultation ahead of Sex and Relationships modules being delivered in Personal Development lessons. A paper copy of the electronic consultation form can be made available on request. The Garibaldi School RSE policy and the long term curriculum plan can be found on the website via the following link: <https://www.garibaldischool.co.uk/page.php?d=pshce&p=intro>.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents; recent national parental feedback has indicated that the overwhelming majority of parents continue to be supportive of the relationships and sex education programme. If you would like to find any further information please don't hesitate to contact me via email: ABleasdale@garibaldischool.co.uk

Yours faithfully



Miss A Bleasdale
Lead Teacher of Personal Development and Careers