



**Orchard Mead Academy**

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**Principal: Mr I Patel**

Date 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a part of your child's education at Orchard Mead, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential. As you may be aware, from September 2020 the Department for Education expected all schools to implement new statutory Relationships, Sex Education and Health Education curriculum (RSE) as part of their Personal Social Health Education program.

The curriculum 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, well-being, safeguarding and healthy relationships. Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, it will give young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and will help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

On this page you will find our RSE Policy [K-OMA-RSE-Policy.pdf \(orchard-tmet.uk\)](#) and a curriculum map which details what will be taught to each year group.

I am writing to let you know for the remainder of the current academic year there are 4 PSHE drop down sessions that focus on the relationships and sex education (RSE) aspect of this programme, starting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. Pupils will have opportunities to ask questions that help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world.

**Right to Withdraw**

Parents and carers continue to have the right to withdraw their children from Sex Education element of RSE up to three terms before their child's sixteenth birthday, except in those elements which are required by the Science National Curriculum. Should parents or carers wish to withdraw their children they are asked to notify the school by filling out the attached form and sending it back via email to [nroberts@orchard-tmet.uk](mailto:nroberts@orchard-tmet.uk). There is no right to withdraw your child from the Relationship Education element of RSE.

The deadline for responding to this letter is 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Yours Sincerely,

Corinne Grant

Assistant Principal Personal Development



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