

Dear Parent/Carer

As part of the school's Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme your child will be participating in a lesson on relationships and sexual health (SRE). These lessons will take place within school and will be delivered by a trained team of staff from Birmingham Community Healthcare Trust as well as the school nurse. Evidence shows that comprehensive programmes of SRE can have a positive impact on young people's sexual behaviour, helping them to make sense of the sexual messages and imagery around them, to understand risks and consequences and to gain the knowledge and skills they need to stay safe and be healthy (DfE 2010)

The National PSHE programme is adopted by all schools and as such we are required to provide all students with a full and clear understanding of all aspects of PSHE as outlined in the National Curriculum Framework.

The purpose of the PSHE programme delivered at Ninestiles is to provide knowledge and understanding of the nature of sexuality and the process of human reproduction, within the context of marriage and relationships. It should develop understanding and attitudes, which will help students to form relationships in a responsible and healthy manner. The outcome of the programme will mean all students will have the opportunity to make a smooth transition into adulthood with good information and the confidence, knowledge and understanding to make positive choices about relationships, thereby ensuring they become well rounded, secure young people. It will also include vital current aspects of on-line safety.

The sessions will take place during the day, 27th or 29th June, depending on your child's teaching groups. We have deliberately timed this so that it does not fall during Ramadan. The Department for Education states that "if parents choose to withdraw their children from school provision they have a responsibility to provide alternative SRE". In our experience, and because of the responsible and thoughtful way in which this part of the curriculum is delivered, very few parents take this option.

If you would like to discuss the programme further please contact me via email Jackie.mcgillicuddy@ninstiles.org.uk or by a letter brought into the school office.

Yours faithfully,

Jackie McGillicuddy (Mrs)
Vice Principal
Ninestiles, An Academy