

# Enhanced Inclusion in the Curriculum by:

1. Working towards the **Rainbow Flag** award.

2. Using the **Jigsaw** scheme.



**Meeting for Parents/ Carers 28.3.19**

# Welcome



We appreciate you joining us to find out more about our work on inclusion and, in particular, our work regarding the Rainbow Flag award.

We hope, through our meeting today, that we can:

- Discuss **why** we wish to enhance inclusion in our school.
- Explain **how** we will do this (through work towards the Rainbow Flag award & through our new PSHE scheme of work: Jigsaw).
- Address **questions** and **concerns** raised by some of our parents/carers

# What's new and what's the same in 2018-2019?

## Same:

- Sex education (Policy unchanged; Growing and Changing programme)
- Relationships education (Policy unchanged)
- Staff dealing with homophobic comments and bullying, and HOS reporting incidents to governors

## New for 2018-2019

- Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work (instead of previous scheme of work called SEAL)
- Rainbow Flag Award (to gain recognition for what we already do as a school and deepen our knowledge and skill in dealing sensitively with homophobic discrimination and LGBT inclusion whilst taking into account the religious backgrounds of all our pupils)
- Rights Respecting School Award
- RSE policy review (not started and will involve consultation with parent/carers in Summer term)

# Why?



## We want to:

- Continue to grow as an inclusive school in all respects.
- Ensure our pupils are aware of, and informed about, family lives that are different from their own and are able to accept and respect diversity, whilst following their own path in life.
- Support all our pupils to feel proud of who they are and their culture, beliefs and faith, and also have tolerance and respect for others with lifestyles different to their own.
- Ensure all our pupils feel included, including those who have LGBT parents/ carers.
- Help children understand the world they live in and prepare them for life in modern Britain.
- Ensure all children and adults in our school community feel safe and respected.
- Eradicate **any** discrimination and bullying, including that targeted at LGBT people.



# How?



- Inform and consult with parents/carers.
- Address concerns and questions from parents/ carers.
- Inform and consult with governors and people in the community.
- Provide training for staff so they have the knowledge and confidence to sensitively lead PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education) lessons which include discussion about bullying in all its forms or about different families, and do this in a way that is sensitive to the religious background of all our pupils.
- Use the new Jigsaw programme to help us discuss all aspects of relationships education at an age appropriate level.

# Questions & Concerns from Parents/ Carers

- We had some questions and concerns from parents/ carers raised in a previous Thursday coffee afternoon and some sent by email.
- We hope to address these and provide further clarity about what we wish to achieve as a school.

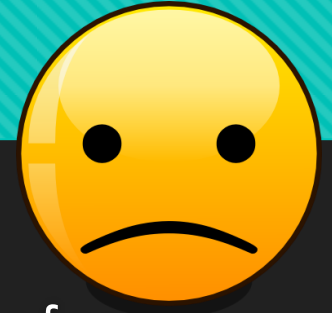


“I have concern over the sex education”  
“Do we have the right to withdraw my children from sex education?”



- We have not changed anything about our sex education; this happens in UKS2 and parents/ carers are always informed beforehand.
- Parents/ carers can withdraw their children from sex education but not lessons that include LGBT awareness. We will not be teaching specific LGBT lessons, only inclusive lessons- raising awareness of a range of family possibilities and discussing bullying in all its forms.

“Is it compulsory for pupils to attend assembly for such topics.”  
“I am not happy about what is discussed without my permission.”  
“I am not happy about the assembly.”



- We accept that we could have done more work in class before introducing so much information that was new to many of our pupils.
- We also accept that parents/ carers needed more information to support their children with questions they had when they got home (we now have some information on our website).
- We believe raising awareness of different relationships, including LGBT relationships, is important for our pupils and will continue doing this in our PSHE lessons in an age-appropriate way.
- Parents/ carers only have the right to exclude children from sex education, not relationships education.



# “You should tell us about any new subject you ‘teach’ to our children.”



- We accept that we could have given parents/ carers more information about all our school priorities for this year; since this has been raised we have sent out a news letter, put information on the website and organised this meeting today.
- We do want to make sure we involve parents/ carers in all new initiatives; the Rainbow Flag award is new this year but our work on relationships and different families has been part of our PSHE work for many years.
- Our main aims in working towards The Rainbow Flag award are to: develop the knowledge and confidence of our staff to sensitively raise awareness of different families and relationships; make sure our pupils are prepared for life in modern Britain; gain recognition for the inclusive work we have already been doing.
- We will be raising awareness of diversity in PSHE lessons using the Jigsaw programme.

# “My child was confused.”



- We feel that **not** talking about LGBT identities will be confusing.
- We want to give our pupils the right information; we don't want them to get confusing messages from social media and the INTERNET.
- Any information we give our pupils will be **age appropriate**.
- We are providing our staff with training, using Rainbow Flag award ideas, so they can knowledgeably and confidently lead age appropriate lessons and discussion, whilst being sensitive to the different faiths, families and beliefs of our pupils.

# “Can I exclude my child from the topic of gay, lesbian?”

- We will not be teaching LGBT lessons, only inclusive lessons; we will continue to include discussion about LGBT people and issues where appropriate, e.g. in lessons about bullying or families.
- There will be no major changes to our curriculum.
- Parents/ carers can not exclude their children from lessons that include LGBT discussion just as they cannot exclude them from discussion on Black History or any other of the protected characteristics.



# “My concern is to say that Muslims can be gay”



- We understand that many Muslims believe that being gay is a choice they can not make.
- As teachers, we are not imposing our beliefs on our pupils; we are simply informing our pupils that LGBT people exist and that all people, including LGBT people, deserve respect.



“I want to stop the new RSE curriculum, I want my child to learn about Maths, English and Science”

“We need to know the materials of RSE before they are taught”

- In Rolls Crescent, we teach pupils about relationships as part of our PSHE work. We hope to improve this by using the Jigsaw scheme and within this, include discussion about all types of families and relationships, where appropriate, and in an age appropriate manner.
- We are making **no changes** to our sex education policy. If any changes are needed we will always consult with parents/ carers. Sex education outlined in the new RSE guidance is for secondary schools.
- We will continue to spend the same amount of time teaching Maths, English and Science.
- When we develop an RSE policy for September 2020, we will ensure we take into account the views of parents/carers, the religious background of all our pupils and our duty to educate about equality, diversity and difference.

# Questions?



# Next steps...



- Please fill in our questionnaire.
- Include any comments or questions at the bottom.
- We will respond to further questions / comments individually or in an update letter to all parents/ carers.
- Governors' presentation.
- RSE review in summer term in consultation with parents/ carers, governors and staff
- Continued discussion with parents/ carers: please contact school with any concerns or questions about our inclusion work- we will be happy to discuss them with you.

# Thank you for joining us today



○ We welcome your contribution and will continue working in close partnership with you to provide the best education for your children.

