NORTHERN FEDERATION
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Dear Parents and Carers,

We wrote to you in last year regarding the Department for Education's announcement related to updated requirements for the teaching of **Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)** and **Health Education**, which came into effect this academic year (2026/27). All schools are required to comply with these updated standards.

Effective engagement gives the space and time for parents to input, ask questions, share concerns. The school will listen to parents' views and then make a reasonable decision as to how they wish to proceed. When and how content is taught is ultimately a decision for the school, and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content. The content is decided and directed by the government included in the statutory guidance available here: Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education - GOV.UK

The changes included:

- National guidance has been updated to ensure pupils learn the knowledge and skills they need for life in a modern, digital world.
- Strengthening teaching on healthy relationships, respect, safety and growing up.
- Aims to help children make informed decisions, stay safe and understand how to build positive relationships with others.

Our previous consultation related to these changes and parents understanding of the policy, teaching sequence and content. Through this consultation it was confirmed that the school uses the KAPOW scheme to deliver PSHE and RSE to our pupils.

As we have moved to a mixed age curriculum in the junior school, it is important that we again seek the views of parents about the curriculum content. The change to a mixed age progression means that some content has been re-organised including the non-statutory unit related to sex education. For 2026-27 this unit will be taught to Year 6. From 2027 onwards this will form part of the mixed age cycle and will be taught to Year 5 and 6 in the summer term of 'Cycle B'.

We are therefore launching a consultation to **gather your views on our PSHE and RSE curriculum and policy for mixed age teaching and the inclusion of non-statutory sex education in the mixed age curriculum for Year 5&6.** This works as an addendum to our previous consultation about the use of KAPOW as a curriculum scheme.

You are invited to visit our website to view the following information:

https://northernfederation.org.uk/Curriculum/PSHE-RSE-at-Northern/

1. **View additional information in the Kapow parent zone: https://www.kapowprimary.com/subjects/rse-pshe/curriculum/rse-pshe-parent-information/. This contains details, FAQ's and videos with example resources for parents to view a sample of the curriculum.**
2. **Review our updated draft PSHE and RSE Policy**
3. **View the Mixed age cycle summary – this highlights the sections which are non-statutory in upper key stage 2**
4. **View the Kapow RSE & PSHE Curriculum guide 2026 onward – mixed age overview**
5. **Complete our Parent Voice PSHE/RSE feedback form here: RSE/PSHE Parent Consultation Survey**

Please note that Relationships Education and Health Education are statutory in primary schools. Parents do not have the right to withdraw children from these aspects of learning. We will always ensure that all teaching is delivered sensitively, appropriately, and in a way that supports children's understanding and wellbeing.

We value your feedback and would like to ensure that our curriculum reflects both statutory requirements and the needs of our school community. Parent Voice feedback form will close on 14th October 2026.

Following this period, the consultation results will be presented to the Governing Body Meeting on Thursday 12th November 2026 with the policy being finalized at this point.

Kind regards

Mrs Fullick