



Bishop William Ward C of E (VA) Primary School

Happy, respectful, lifelong learners

Headteacher: Mr Toby Bull

Dear Parents,

In line with the school sex education policy, I write to inform you that during the week commencing Monday 21st May, the children will be covering the unit of work in science 'Living and Growing'. The teaching and learning in this unit is about the promotion of self-esteem and the fostering of individual well-being.

Children will be encouraged to ask questions, which will be answered openly and honestly. An individual child's questions may well be of interest to the class. However, if the question requires explicit information, only to the individual, they will not be responded to in the whole class setting, but to the individual as appropriate, possibly encouraging them to seek advice from their own parents. An outline for this unit of science is as follows and all sessions will be inclusive for both boys and girls.

- **Girl Talk** The physical and emotional changes that take place for girls at the onset of puberty. Menstruation will be discussed and common issues faced by girls.
- **Boy Talk** The physical and emotional changes that take place for boys at the onset of puberty. Issues commonly faced by boys will be discussed.
- **How Babies Are Made and Born** Examines the whole process of life cycles and reproduction, friendships and feelings. I shall emphasise the importance of loving caring relationships between couples and the value of the family and the relationships within it. Diagrams and a human reproduction animation will be used to illustrate.
- **Let's Talk About Sex** Children will consider how sex is presented in the media. They will also consider sexual stereotyping. Pupils will be reassured that their changing emotions are a normal aspect of puberty.

To pass from childhood through adolescence successfully and safely, children need plenty of opportunities to make choices and decisions, and to take responsibility for those parts of their lives over which they have control. It is vital that they receive the right information so they can be relied upon to make sensible and informed choices. Withholding information may harm them and others, as ignorance can lead to inappropriate behaviour.

Children are generally fascinated by their own bodies and the human life cycle. An understanding of how the body works, grows and changes is a relevant and vital part of every child's personal development.

I hope you find the information in this letter informative and that it will enable you to answer any questions your child may raise. If you have any concerns, please feel free to come and speak with me.

Kelly Holliday (Deputy Head)

Bishop William Ward C of E (VA) Primary School
Coach Road, Great Horkesley, Colchester, Essex, CO6 4AT
telephone: 01206 271336 email: admin@bishopwilliamward.essex.sch.uk