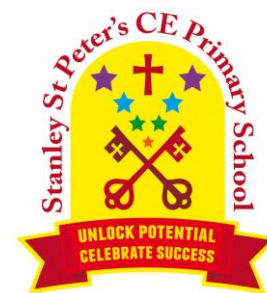


Sunday, 2nd May, 2021



Dear Year 3 and Year 4 Parents/Carers

I have received correspondence to suggest that some of our Year 3 and Year 4 parents are unhappy about the Sex Education lessons that have been delivered recently; therefore, I felt that it would be pertinent to write to you immediately rather than waiting until we return to school.

I would like to point out that I did send a letter to parents on 2/11/20 (as well as a text being sent to ask parents to read the letter on that same date) which stated that I had written a new RHSE policy. Within the letter, I explained that the policy had been put on our website for parents to peruse and I gave parents a period of 4 weeks for consultation and to get in touch with me with anything that they would like to raise before I took the policy to the governors for approval in December. The policy explicitly states what content will be taught in the sex education curriculum in each year group and it also states that parents have the right to withdraw their child from these lessons if they wish to do so. There was also a template withdrawal form included in the policy too.

As I did not receive any withdrawal forms, queries or objections to the policy, it was taken to the governors meeting in December and agreed and I assumed that everything was fine, parents were well informed and we could go ahead and teach the content as planned. (It has been incredibly difficult to find ways to communicate effectively with parents due to COVID restrictions but I hope that you can appreciate I have tried my best to keep parents as informed as I possibly can about all the things happening in school.)

A text was sent at the beginning of this term to let parents know that the curriculum overviews for this term were available on our website. This, I felt, would serve as a reminder to parents that your children would be taught this content this term.

Upon reflection, out of courtesy and to ensure that parents felt fully informed and equipped to support their child should they need it after the sessions and also to allow parents an additional opportunity to withdraw their children from this element of the curriculum, I perhaps should have sent out a separate letter to reiterate that the lessons were about to place. It is my fault that this did not happen and I sincerely apologise for that. In the future I will ensure that a letter is sent immediately before any sex education units are about to take place and remind parents of their right to withdraw their child from these lessons.

Could I please ask you again to take the time to read the policy which can be found here: <https://primariesite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/stanley-st-peters-church-of-england-vc-primary-school/UploadedDocument/4679045285154700b67826e0e1cc3102/rhse-policy.pdf>

I will instruct the teachers to delay the next PHSE lesson until at least Monday 10th May which gives a week for parents to read the policy and allow time for anyone

that wishes to withdraw their child from the lessons, to complete the withdrawal form and return it to school.

I hope that this letter provides clarity and reassurance but should anyone have any further queries or concerns, please contact me via email mwiggins@stanleystpeters.co.uk.

I sincerely hope you enjoy the remainder of the bank holiday weekend.

Kind regards,

Michelle Wiggins

Headteacher



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Our School Values are: **Perseverance**, **Courage**, **Forgiveness**, **Friendship**, **Honesty** and **Acceptance**