

2nd October 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

PSHE / RSE Curriculum: 2020 – 21

As an academy, we believe in the importance of keeping all our student's safe and supported in making appropriate personal decisions for themselves and others. Part of how we address this is through our PSHE curriculum and assembly rota. This curriculum is influenced by guidance given by student voice, the Department of Education, local and national data and the importance of safeguarding all our students.

Following the publication of the statutory guidance "Relationship Education, Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (February 2019)" we are in the process of reviewing our Relationship and Sex Education policy and curriculum. Schools are being actively encouraged by the Department for Education to start the process of reviewing their provision. A copy of our policy and PSHE programme can be viewed on the TQEA website: <https://tqea.attrust.org.uk/academy-life/policies/>

The policy and curriculum is subject to change and will be adapted to meet statutory guidelines and contextualised where appropriate.

We are keen to hear your views and opinions as we continuously shape and review our curriculum; as part of this we have set up a specific email address rseconsultation@tqea.org.uk. Please do use this email address in order to share your opinions. We would also like to set up a Parent Engagement Forum in order to discuss our provision and plans further. If you would like to be part of this forum, please do indicate your interest via email to the above address by **Monday 12th October**.

We intend for our curriculum to reflect the needs of our students and to support them to make happy, health, safe and informed decisions. In support of safeguarding the young people within our academy, our curriculum includes lessons based around protective behaviours and has been developed with the support of Children's Services. These subjects will always be taught in a sensitive, age appropriate and timely manner ensuring students have access to accurate information and which allows them to develop their own ideas and beliefs whilst keeping themselves and others safe. As part of this, students will always be encouraged to discuss topics with a trusted adult. Our curriculum overview and year group schemes of learning can be found on our school website: <https://tqea.attrust.org.uk/pshe/>

Protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010 (including LGBT) education runs through the programme and supports the TQEA inclusive community where we promote acceptance, kindness and respect.

Parents will continue to have the right to withdraw their child from non-statutory sex education up until three terms before the child turns 16. Requests to withdraw children from statutory aspects of RSE are unlawful and will not be granted. This includes relationship and health education (including puberty) and curriculum taught as part of the Science national curriculum. Please make an appointment with a member of the pastoral team in the first instance or the Principal who will discuss any concerns you may have around this programme.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Morris
Assistant Principal – Pastoral and Behaviour

Principal: Mr N Harding - (BA Hons) PGCE NPQH

The Queen Elizabeth Academy, Witherley Road, Atherstone, Warwickshire, CV9 1LZ

T: 01827 712477 E: info@tqea.attrust.org.uk W: www.tqea.attrust.org.uk



**The Queen Elizabeth
Academy**

“We Can and We Will”