

## Dudley Academies Trust

Executive offices, Dudley College of Technology  
Priory Villa, 3 Ednam Road, Dudley, West  
Midlands, DY1 1HL  
Chair of Board of Trustees: Lowell Williams  
Chief Executive: Jo Higgins



19/03/21

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Re: Secondary Relationships and Sex Education Consultation**

In light of the changes to requirements for relationships and sex education (RSE), we are consulting with parents, learners and staff on how we can ensure that our updated RSE curriculum meets the new requirements as well as the needs of our learners.

As a part of your child's educational experience at Dudley Academies Trust, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

As you may already be aware, the Department for Education has announced changes to relationships and sex education following nationwide consultation. These changes came into effect from September 2020 and all schools are required to comply with the updated requirements. The statutory guidance can be found [here](#).

The new guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships.

Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up will give children and young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

Consequently, from September 2020, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, became statutory, and forms part of the National Curriculum. Following guidance from the Department of Education, the decision was taken to delay the implementation until the start of summer term 2021 to allow prioritising curriculum content on mental health and wellbeing.

We have worked hard to ensure that our new curriculum reflects:

- Our learners' age and maturity levels
- Our learners' cultural and religious backgrounds
- The values of our school community
- Every learner's learning needs



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- What learners need to know to be healthy and safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider world.

We have now updated our RSE policy to include our proposed new curriculum. We are currently in unprecedented times which makes it a little more challenging to consult with you. However, to help you understand the curriculum requirements, we have made our draft policy available on our Trust website at [www.dudleyacademiestrust.org.uk](http://www.dudleyacademiestrust.org.uk) located under 'In the classroom' > 'Relationships & Health / Sex Education'.

Your views are very important to us and we would like your feedback on the proposed curriculum, and the wider policy via our survey which can be accessed via: [Secondary Consultation Survey RSE](#) or via our website as outlined above.

Once we have considered all the feedback, the updated Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the academy's website which will also set out the proposed curriculum and how you can provide feedback.

**The deadline for responding to the consultation is 02/04/21.**

I hope this letter and attached information helps to alleviate any worries you may have. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours faithfully

Jo Higgins  
Chief Executive



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