

## Term 6 PSHE Information

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to update you regarding our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) curriculum of work, which is delivered through a programme called Jigsaw. Every term the school focuses on a different Jigsaw piece which overall promotes children's health and well-being.

Next term the children will be undertaking their final Jigsaw piece called 'Changing Me'. As you may be aware, this puzzle includes two or three lessons to help children understand the changes puberty brings and how human reproduction happens. The lessons also ensure that children are taught how to keep themselves safe in a variety of different situations, therefore playing an important role in the school safeguarding provision.

### What will my child actually be taught?

The 'Changing Me' unit is taught over a period of 6 weeks. Each year group will be taught appropriate to their age and development. Please note: at no point will a child be taught something that is inappropriate; and if a question from a child arises and the teacher feels it would be inappropriate to answer, (for example, because of its mature or explicit nature), the child will be encouraged to ask his/her parents or carers at home, and the question will not be answered to the child or class if it is outside the remit of that year group's programme.

**Robin Class** (Reception): Growing up: how we have changed since we were babies

**Starling Class** (Year 1): Boys' and girls' bodies; body parts

**Goldfinch Class** (Year 2 only): Boys' and girls' bodies; body parts and respecting privacy (which parts of the body are private and why this is).

**Goldfinch Class** (Year 3 only): How babies grow and how boys' and girls' bodies change as they grew older. Puberty is introduced gently in Y3 because some girls may start their periods this early and it is necessary to prepare them for this, so they aren't scared or worried.

**Kingfisher Class** (Year 4 only): Internal and external reproductive body parts, body changes in girls and menstruation. Conception is introduced age-appropriately in Year 4 in the context of understanding why our bodies change during puberty.

**Kingfisher Class** (Year 5 only): Puberty for boys and girls, understanding of Human Reproduction and conception is built upon in Year 5.

**Owl Class** (Year 6): Puberty for boys and girls and understanding conception to birth of a baby is age-appropriately covered in Year 6.

**Golden Eagles** (Year 3-6 Welcome Class) will be joining their year group classes during the delivery of 'Changing Me'.

All lessons are taught using simple, child-friendly language and pictures, which help children understand changes more effectively. As the delivery of Changing Me is year group specific, all mixed year group classes will be split in order to be taught within year groups by experienced teaching staff. We do hope you will agree with us that this work is vitally important for children, that it needs to be done age-appropriately and that the Jigsaw Programme gives a secure framework in which to do this.

At Willow Park, puberty is taught as a statutory requirement of Health Education and is covered by our Jigsaw PSHE Programme in the 'Changing Me' Puzzle (unit). We conclude that sex education refers to Human Reproduction, and therefore inform parents of their right to request their child be withdrawn from the following non-statutory PSHE lessons that explicitly teach this.

***Year 4, Lesson 2 (Having a baby)***

The choice to have a baby, the parts of men and women that make babies and – in simple terms – how this happens (animations used – the Female Reproductive System).

***Year 5, Lesson 4 (Conception)***

Understanding the place of sexual intercourse in a relationship and how it can lead to wonder of a new life (animations used – the Female and Male Reproductive System).

***Year 6, Lesson 4 (Conception to birth)***

The story of pregnancy and birth (animations used – the Female and Male Reproductive Systems).

We do, as always, want to work in partnership with parents and carers. If you would like to know more about what your child will learning about within Changing Me, please do not hesitate to speak to us through arranging a meeting with Mr Larke-Phillips and Mrs Leaker.

If you have a question or do not want your child to participate in one of the above non-statutory lessons about human reproduction **please book an appointment to come and see us or put it in writing either by email or as a letter and send it to the office by Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The office emailing address is [office@willowpark.org.uk](mailto:office@willowpark.org.uk). Even if you have withdrawn your child from these lessons before, you MUST still provide your withdrawal in writing or had a meeting with Mr Larke-Phillips.**

We hope you, like us, will see that the materials in Jigsaw as educationally sound and beneficial to our children.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Leaker

Lead Philosopher