



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Nurturing hearts and minds through God's love

10/1/23

To: Parents/Carers of Year 5 Pupils

Dear Parent,

Puberty Sessions – during Spring term

As described in our RSHE policy, Year 5 pupils are due to take part in some lessons on puberty in the coming weeks. These lessons will help to prepare the children for some of the physical and emotional changes that they can expect to go through and give them the opportunity to ask any questions.

This part of the curriculum is statutory, which means there is not right to withdraw children from lessons, but we wanted you to know that this is the area of study that will be looming in case you wanted to have a chat with your child beforehand, or for you to be prepared for some questions when they return.

The lessons will be delivered by Mrs Beasley using materials from SCARF. In their parent section they suggest that parents talk to their children about puberty in small chunks 'incidentally', perhaps when you see adverts for related products such as tampons or deodorant etc. Of course, this is superseded by the need to answer questions, though if you feel your child is asking about a subject that is too mature to them, we encourage you to tell them that they will learn this when they are older. We need to balance preparation with a preservation of their childhood!

As part of our study, we explain to children that they are learning this material because they are ready for it – younger children don't need to know it yet and they shouldn't be sharing the information on the yard or with siblings in case it confuses them.

Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Walton
Headteacher