



Education-My Life Matters
CIC School and Alternative
Provisions
108 Conisborough Crescent
Catford
London
SE6 2SP

Telephone
(020) 8698 9663
07956 148 358

6th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may already be aware, Relationships, Sex and Education (RSE), along with Health Education (HE), is now part of the National Curriculum. This change commenced September 2020.

The purpose of this curriculum is to provide age appropriate knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on respect. This is to encourage the development of safe and healthy relationships throughout life. The subject is designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships, and to thrive in modern Britain.

At EMLM, we have now developed our policy for Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE). RSHE at EMLM will be taught within our Life Studies sessions, which also contains some elements of Careers Education and Citizenship. We have uploaded the draft policy with the topics we will be covering which you will find on **Appendix 1** of this policy as well as a PowerPoint presentation to simplify this policy. We will be going through this presentation during our consultation meetings mentioned below.

You do have a right to withdraw your child from sex education that is delivered as part of the RSE curriculum which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be granted up to three terms before your child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent.

There is however, no right to withdraw your child from sex education lessons delivered through the science curriculum and all other subjects delivered in the RSE curriculum, such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – which are important for all children to be taught. However, we are confident you will share our enthusiasm for the successful implementation of the Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education curriculum, which we feel will benefit all of our students.

Our consultation period begins today and will end on 31st March 2023. A meeting for interested parents/carers is being held **on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 15:30pm in school** and we will have a further **online meeting on Thursday 23rd March 2023 at 15.30pm** at which you will be able to hear a presentation on RSHE teaching, together we will discuss the topics covered, how and when the content is covered and share lesson content and resources we will be using to teach these topics. **This is an important meeting as you will be able to ask any questions or discuss any concerns you have.** After our consultation period, we are planning to teach these lessons during the summer term.

There is an information leaflet for parents on the Department for Education website which can be accessed via the link below:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812594/RSE_secondary_schools_guide_for_parents.pdf

There is also further information available on the Lewisham website:

<https://schoolsservices.lewisham.gov.uk/Page/17581>

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss the programme further.

Yours sincerely,

Winsome Fletcher
Assistant Headteacher

Email: info@education-my lifematters.org
Web Address: www.education-my lifematters.org

Registered Office: Education-My Life Matters CIC | 4 Rowallan Court | Catford | London SE6 1LB
Company Registration No : 09216669 – DFE Registration No: 209/6003