



Friday 26th June, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, I am hoping that this letter finds you well and you are finding some kind of normal in these ever changing and difficult times.

The Academy has been busy preparing for a planned opening in September, but at the moment plans remain fluid and that these plans will change. Please see the attached leaflet which will provide you with further information. I would also like to give you advance notice that from September 1st 2020, the school will close to pupils from 1:00pm, this is to cater for staff PPA time. If anyone has any queries/concerns then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Now, more than ever, promoting the health and well-being of our pupils and their families is of vital importance, which is why I am consulting with you with some important curriculum changes that we aim to take place from September, 2020.

As part of your child's educational experience at The Compass Academy, we aim to promote the personal wellbeing and development of all of our pupils through a comprehensive taught programme of the PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Economics) and Relationships, Sex and Health education (RSHE) agenda. The intention of this programme is to give our pupils the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

As you may be aware, from September 2020 the Department for Education is making Relationships and Health Education (Primary) and Relationships Sex Education and Health Education compulsory in all schools. Along with other schools we are gradually introducing some of the changes throughout the school year.

What does the new guidance mean?

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 will help them take responsibility for their own well-being. All of the sessions will be age-appropriate and meet the needs of all pupils in the class.

How will this be delivered?

This guidance will form part of our school's 'Life Studies' programme which is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body.

For further details about our curriculum offer, please visit the school's website, or make contact at the school. All teaching in RSHE will take place in a safe learning environment and be underpinned by our school ethos and values. A variety of opportunities will be provided for pupils to ask questions to further their understanding and to find out more about what affects them personally.

What if I have questions?

To introduce parents to this concept and to ensure that everyone is informed, please find attached a guidance document produced by the Department of Education which explains this new initiative.

As a school community, we are committed to working with parents. Recent feedback from parents has indicated the overwhelming majority continue to be highly supportive of the relationships, sex and health education programme.

In terms of moving forward and planning for September, you will have seen in the news that some year groups have and will be invited into school to join a 'bubble or pod' of learners. We continue to follow government advice and are constantly planning and reviewing how we can keep both staff and pupils safe. The threat from Coronavirus has not yet left us, we ask for your continued support as we set out on the path to find a safe new norm.

If you would like to find out more please do not hesitate in making contact.

Yours sincerely,



Jacqui Thompson
Principal