THE MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL

NHR/NBN

7 November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

RSHE Programme

As a part of your child's education at The Mountbatten School, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) programme. RSHE is the curriculum subject that gives children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to enjoy safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

As part of this course, students study units in Relationships and Sex Education, covering topics such as puberty, body image, relationships and communication skills, keeping safe online, contraception and sexual health. Students have opportunities to ask questions which will be answered factually, and in an age-appropriate manner. Each students' privacy is respected, and no one is ever asked to reveal personal information. RSHE is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and Board of Trustees. Please visit our weekly newsletter and website for more detail about our RSHE curriculum and policy.

All RSHE lessons take place in a safe learning environment and are underpinned by our school ethos and values. Some parts of RSE are compulsory - these are part of the National Curriculum for Science and cover factual biological information about the human body and sexual reproduction. Parents are not able to withdraw students from these lessons. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from other parts of RSE if they wish to do so. However, we believe that the increasing presence of sexual images and content in social and other media make it important that all young people have a place to discuss pressures, check facts and dispel myths.

Even if a child is withdrawn, many students will discuss such issues with each other outside the classroom – so, rather than hear about the content second-hand, we hope all children will have the opportunity to take part in our carefully planned lessons. Our aims are to help students make informed, safe decisions about their sexual health and well-being. It does not encourage early sexual experimentation.

If you do wish to withdraw your child from this element of RSE lessons, please email RemovalSexEd@Mountbatten.school and someone will contact you to discuss your decision. As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents; the overwhelming majority of parents continue to be highly supportive of the relationships and sex education programme. Please note that you only have the right to withdraw your child up until the 3rd term before they turn 16. After that, should your child decide that they want to take part in sex education, they may do so without parental consent.

We know that this is a sensitive subject, and we want to reassure you that we will continue to deliver this in a way that's appropriate for your child's age and level of understanding. Our RSHE Curriculum has been created with great thought for the needs of our young people and our local and national context. We are very proud of what we've developed in line with our RSHE Policy.

The Department for Education has published some resources for parents that explain what they expect students to learn in school and why.

You can find these below:
Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education

FAQs Relationships, sex and health education: guides for parents.

Should you wish to find out more about our RSHE curriculum please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or the RSHE Coordinator.

Yours Sincerely



Natalie Harper
Director of RSHE and Safeguarding