

PSHE & SRE Consultation Results 2023/24

The consultation on the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education was sent out to parents and carers last term. We collected 18 responses which is a higher return than the previous consultation but still only represents 9% of our parent community. Parents/carers were also invited to an in-person presentation in response to the consultation results so that they could ask further questions about the scheme and raise any concerns.

The consultation results:

94% of parents responded that they knew what their child was to be taught and when.

83% of parents responded that they were comfortable with the Catholic Ethos of the programme and 11% were undecided.

88% of parents responded that they trust the school's judgement in delivering the programme, with 5% (1 parent) saying they were undecided and 5% saying that they did not.

33% of parents felt that their child would need additional support to understand the programme of study, 27% were undecided. The remaining parents did not feel their child would need additional support.

100% of parents responded positively that it is their role to be the 'first educator' of their child on matters related to teaching human sexuality.

77% of parents responded that they agree that the names of external genitalia should be taught to children in KS1. A further 11% of parents were undecided.

78% of parents responded that they agree that LKS2 is the appropriate time to teach children about physical changes during puberty.

83% of parents responded that they are happy for their child to be taught about sexual intimacy in Year 5 and 6, in a way that is respectful of Catholic beliefs.

72% of parents responded that they felt it was important that pornography is covered from an internet safety perspective.

75% of parents agree that it's appropriate that in KS1 FGM is not named explicitly, but that children are reminded that private body parts are private and they should stay the same as when a girl was born and are given the additional information that in some cultures people want to harm girls' private parts, and that is not OK.

58% of parents agreed with the statement 'I think that in LKS2 when children are learning about different kinds of abuse, including sexual abuse (referred to as 'abuse of private parts') it's a good time for children to learn some basic facts about FGM.' 12% of parents disagreed and the remainder of the parents were undecided.

50% of parents agreed with the statement 'I think that UKS2 is the best time for children watch a film which answers the following questions: ● What is FGM? ● How does FGM affect health? ● Who is at risk? ● Why does it happen? ● How are people trying to stop it? ● Who can I tell?' 33% disagreed and the remainder were undecided.

100% of parents who responded agreed that they would be happy for their child in UKS2 to discuss scenarios of people who are being discriminated against or bullied because of the protected characteristics of sex and/or sexual orientation.

50% of parents agreed that UKS2 is a good time for children to hear teaching clarifying that gender identity is separate from sexual orientation (this is only for schools who subscribe to Life to the Full Plus). 25% of parents were undecided and 25% of parents disagreed.

67% of parents wanted further context around the key decisions.

The parent forum was attended by around 10 families and the feedback was positive. Generally, there was a consensus that FGM did not need to be something that was taught due to a low risk in the community and that this could be covered without it being specifically mentioned through the topics of consent and appropriate/inappropriate touch.