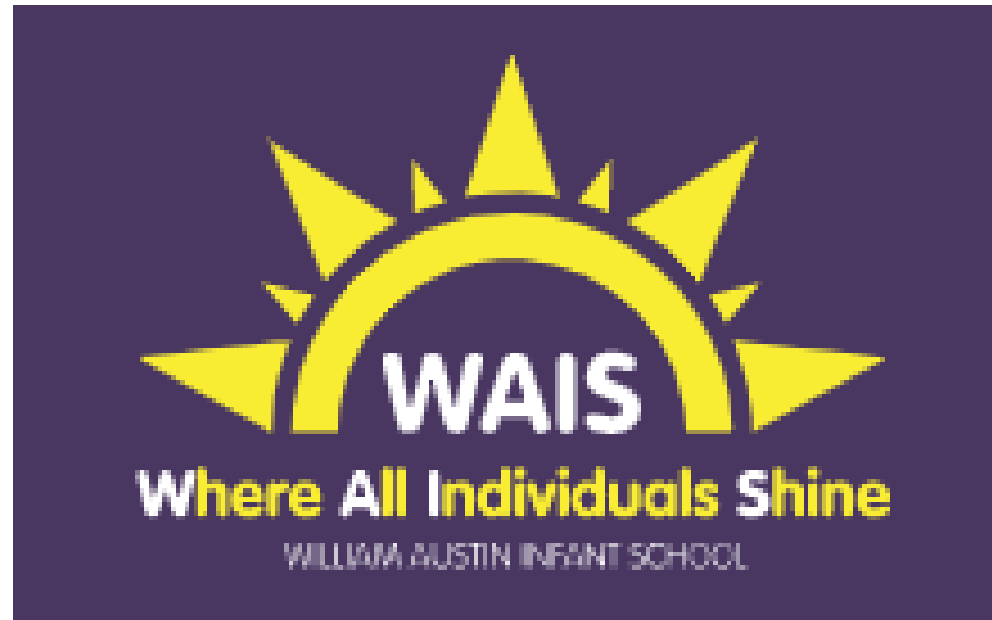


# Parent Consultation on Relationships and Health Education (RHE)



‘Today’s children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way’.



# **Aim of the consultation**

To inform parents how the delivery of Relationships and Health Education (RHE) at William Austin Infant School will be taught, so they have full understanding and knowledge of the RHE curriculum.

# Aims - The aim of this consultation is to outline the following:

- What are the changes to RHE?
- Why has the curriculum changed?
- What will your children learn?
- What are some frequently asked questions regarding the changes to the curriculum?
- What are your rights as a parent?
- An opportunity for you to feedback

# Relationships and Health Education (RHE)

In September 2020 the primary curriculum changed. Schools are now required by law and by Luton Council to teach **Relationships and Health Education**.

**Sex Education** is not statutory in primary school and it will not be taught at William Austin Infant School.

**Relationships education is age-appropriate, building knowledge and life skills over time in a way that prepares pupils for issues they will soon face.**

The focus is on:

- Different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships and dealing with strangers.
- How to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships, including self-respect and respect for others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent, how to manage conflict, and also how to recognise unhealthy relationships.
- How relationships may affect health and well-being, including mental health. Healthy relationships and safety online.

# Age-appropriate RHE is important.

- The digital world is a minefield for young minds
- RHE is inclusive
- RHE supports Child Protection and safeguarding
- A whole school approach to RHE creates a strong message of expectation inside and outside of school

# Why has the curriculum changed?

The last time RSE was updated was in 2000 which was **21 years** ago.

Children of today are now growing up in a very different world.

Many children's organisations raised their concerns with the government to the new threats that started to emerge.

With the rapid expansion of social media apps and devices a new threat also emerged through children's access to the digital world.

This is a great NSPCC resource for parents. 'Be Share Aware' campaign. We tell our children that it's good to share – but online it's very different. In fact sometimes it can be dangerous.



**Cyberbullying**

**Online grooming**

**Emotional health and  
mental well-being  
problems**

**Bullying and harassment**

**Child sexual exploitation**

**SAFETY CONCERNS**



**Fake news and  
misinformation**

**Exposure to violent  
material online**

**Intolerance**

**Radicalisation**

**Low self esteem**

**Unhealthy  
relationships**

# What will children learn?

Families and  
people who care  
for me

Respectful  
relationships

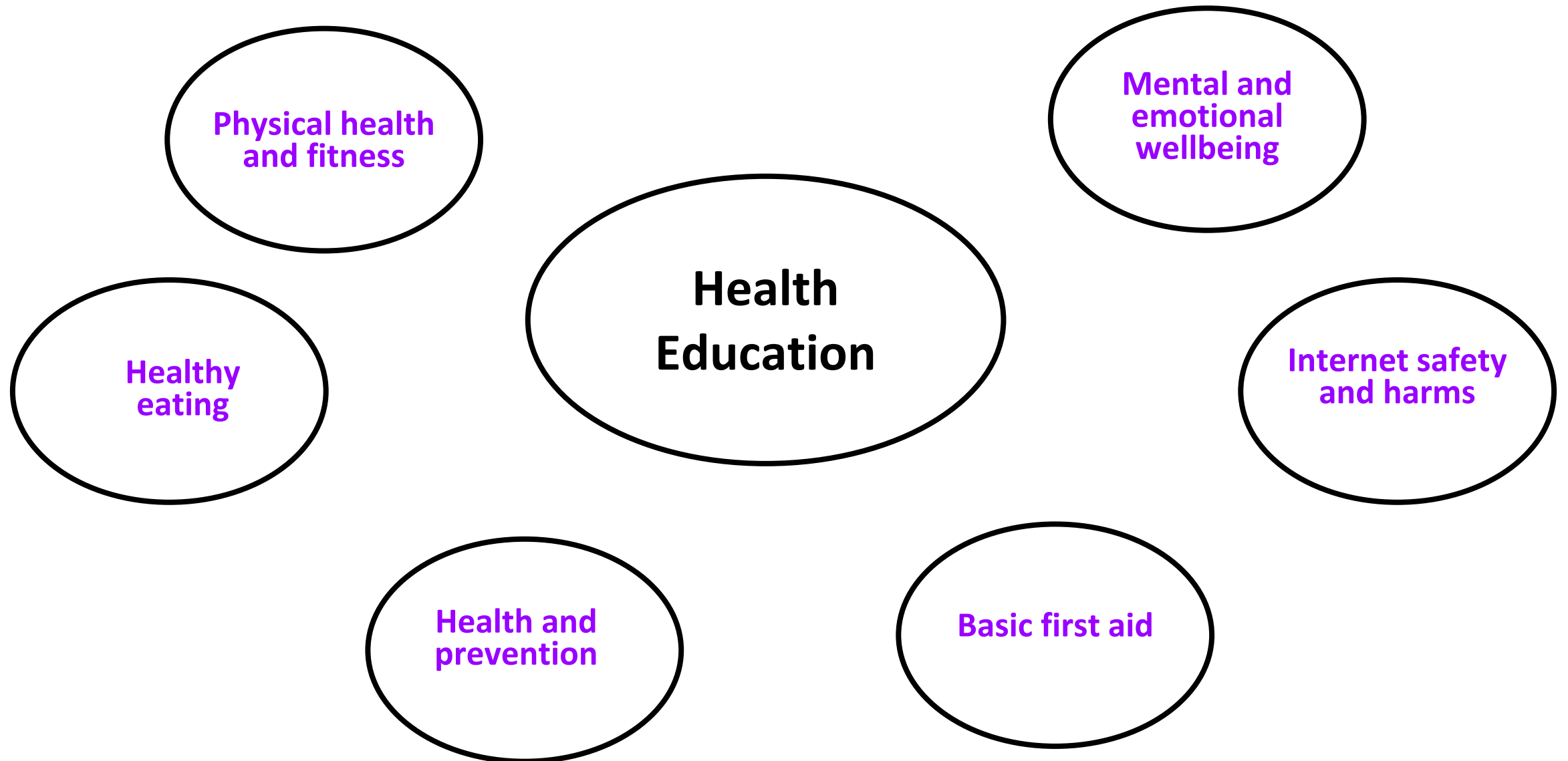
Relationships  
Education

Caring friendships

Being safe

Online  
relationships

# What will children learn?

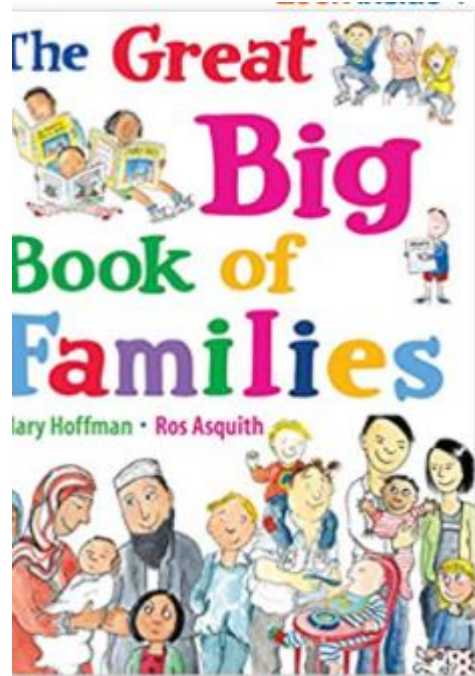


# Delivery of RHE

- RHE is taught within the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum during the Summer 2nd half term.
- Biological aspects of RHE are linked to the Science curriculum, and other aspects are included in Religious Education (RE).
- Our RHE programme will be taught by the class teachers following the Christopher Winter Project (CWP) which gives structured lesson plans and resources.
- Each individual Year group (Year R, Year 1 and Year 2) will be taught the RHE curriculum over 3 separate lessons.

# Schemes of Work: Early Years

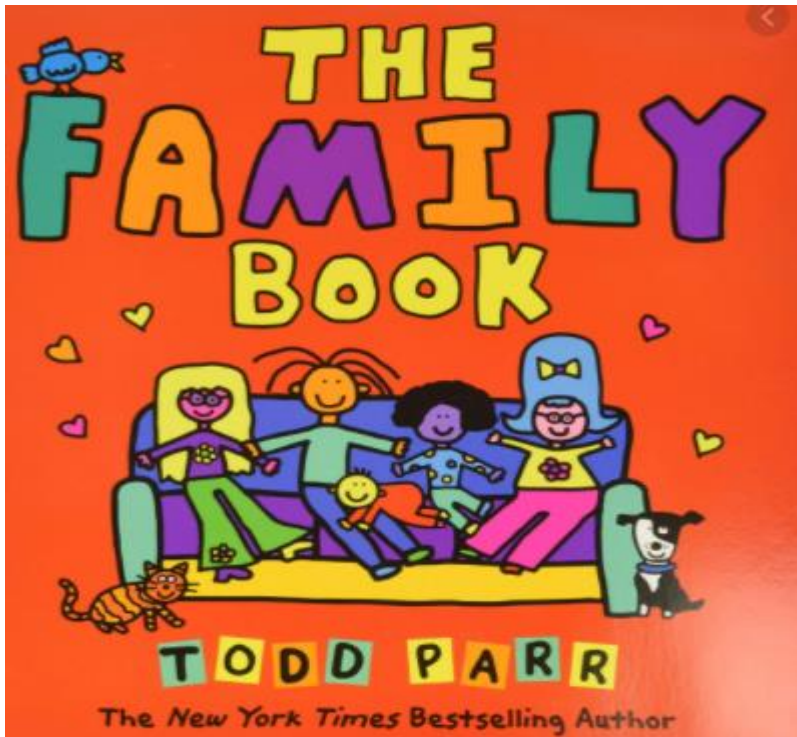
- Families
- Keeping ourselves clean
- Our Day



[Click here to listen to the story](#) that will be used in Year R to teach about families.

# Schemes of Work: Year 1

- Keeping clean
- Growing and changing
- Families and care



[Click here to listen to the story](#) that will be used in Year 1 to teach about families.

# Schemes of Work: Year 2

- Differences; male and female
- Naming body parts
- Differences; boys and girls



[Click here to listen to the story](#) that will be used in Year 2 to teach about differences.

# Teaching RHE – Good practice

**Luton schools have been trained to deliver RHE with confidence and will:**

- Always develop ground rules for RHE with the whole class and refer to them regularly.
- Understand confidentiality.
- Agree with class not to ask personal questions/not volunteer personal information.
- Use distancing techniques.
- Use information which is medically and factually correct.
- Teach without bias or personal opinion.
- Promote equality.
- Talk about different types of relationships without promoting any one type of relationship.
- Understand and communicate the schools stance on RHE and related subjects with parents, pupils and each other.
- Ensure parents are informed when RHE will be taught and what will be taught so that they can support their children at home.

If a child asks a sensitive question that a member of staff does not feel comfortable answering, we will liaise with home about the best way to address the child's question.

# Your rights as a Parent/Guardian

- To be informed of the RHE curriculum and policy
- To be consulted about changes to these
- To be given good notice before RHE lessons are taught so you are aware of what topics will be delivered.

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships and Health Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

The Science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, from which there is no right to withdraw.

# Concerns

Does RHE sexualise children?

How do you know what is appropriate to teach?

What if the children ask personal questions?

Is it okay to talk about same-sex relationships?

I don't know what language to use?

I am worried about the types of questions the children will ask

Why does my child have to learn the names of body parts?

What about my personal values and beliefs?

**Please see the separate FAQ's page for the answers to these and any other questions you may have.**

## **Still have questions?**

If you have more questions you would like answered regarding the changes to the Relationships and Health Education curriculum please visit the school website.

There you will find this PowerPoint presentation, a handy RHE FAQ sheet, our school's draft RHE policy, DfE statutory guidance, our letter to parents and the Christopher Winter Project (CWP) schemes of learning.

# Next Steps

Please look at the RHE information and resources materials on the school website:

<https://www.williamaustrininfants.co.uk/relationships-and-health-education-curriculum-info/>

We are interested in your views around any areas you might like further support with at home.

We are aware that there will be differences of opinion, but we will take your views into account when we finalise our draft policy.

If you have any comments or feedback after reading all the RHE information please complete the consultation questionnaire by 4.00pm on Monday 26th April 2021.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1UFyEMnlbZFR\\_w4Hh-2rmKQeiEcZcL-NhIEoQbFdWrVQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1UFyEMnlbZFR_w4Hh-2rmKQeiEcZcL-NhIEoQbFdWrVQ/edit)

A large, solid red heart shape is centered on a white background. Inside the heart, the text "Together we need to teach our children the importance of respect, kindness and tolerance of others." is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and vertically.

**Together we need to  
teach our children  
the importance of  
respect, kindness  
and tolerance of  
others.**