



St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Deakin
www.stmatthews-primary.co.uk

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Patel
Tel: 0121 558 1651

Dear Parents and Carers,

We want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe, and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. That is why, from April 2021, all primary age children will be taught Relationships and Health Education.

These subjects are designed to equip your child with the knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships, as well as preparing them for a successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when the curriculum was last updated. These changes bring the content into the 21st century so that it is relevant for your child.

All schools have the flexibility to deliver the content in a way that they feel is age and developmentally appropriate, and sensitive to the needs and religious background of its pupils. At St Matthew's, we believe that our approach meets the needs of our families and the wider community.

Relationships Education

Our approach to Relationships Education will put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships, including with family, friends and online. Your child will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them. At St Matthew's, we will teach children how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect. By the end of their time at St Matthew's, children will have been taught about:

- families and people who care for me
- caring friendships
- respectful relationships
- online relationships
- being safe

Health Education

Our approach to Health Education aims to give your child the information they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, to recognise issues in themselves and others, and to seek support as early as possible when issues arise.

By the end of their time at St Matthew's, children will have been taught about:

- mental wellbeing
- internet safety
- physical health and fitness
- healthy eating
- facts and risks associated with drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- health and prevention
- basic first aid
- changing adolescent body

You can find further information by searching 'relationships and health education' on the GOV.UK website.

Your rights as a parent

The important lessons you teach your child about healthy relationships, looking after themselves and staying safe, are respected and valued. Teaching at St Matthew's will complement and reinforce the lessons you teach your child as they grow up.

Right to withdraw your child

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children learn about topics, such as friendships and how to stay safe. At St Matthew's we will teach elements of puberty and basic anatomy through our science curriculum. Please be aware, the science curriculum in all primary schools includes some content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.

Policy and Curriculum

It is important that parents and carers are aware of any changes to the curriculum and so we have put our Relationships and Health Education Policy and curriculum map on our website for parents and carers to view. Please follow the link to view the policy and curriculum map: www.stmatthews-primary.co.uk/rhe

If you have any questions, or would like to speak to either myself or Mrs Patel, about Relationships and Health Education, please contact the office and they will make an appointment.

Kind regards

Fiona Deakin

Headteacher