

Executive Headteacher: Ms Sarah Jane Bellerby

Date: 16 January 2025

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you well. I would like to invite you to a series of workshops that I will be hosting here at Mulberry Wood Wharf. These sessions will give you an opportunity to learn more about our Relationships and Health Education (RHE) policy and curriculum and to understand how we approach these important areas of learning.

We follow the **Jigsaw curriculum** as the foundation for our Relationships and Health Education, but I want to make it clear that while we use Jigsaw as a guide, we don't teach everything it suggests. We have carefully adapted the content to suit the needs and backgrounds of our pupils, taking out some material that we feel isn't appropriate for our school community. It's important for you to know that we don't follow the Jigsaw curriculum verbatim but instead take a tailored approach that aligns with our values and the needs of our children.

In particular, the **Relationships unit** focuses on building an understanding of healthy relationships, where children develop skills such as empathy, respect, and positive communication. The **Changing Me unit** looks at personal growth and the changes that occur as children grow, helping them understand their bodies, emotions, and the transitions they will go through as they move through life.

We take great care in considering the content we teach. While we follow the Department for Education (DfE) and Tower Hamlets guidance, we adapt the materials to be as relevant and appropriate as possible for our pupils. This is why I strongly encourage you to attend one of these workshops to learn about the content we will be covering, including the vocabulary used and the specific materials we will be teaching from.

I understand that Relationships and Health Education can sometimes be misunderstood, especially with the misinformation that can circulate in the media. Please be assured that our approach is based on transparency, honesty, and doing what is in the best interests of your child's development. We want you to feel informed and confident about what your child will be learning.

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admin@mulberrywoodwharf.org
www.mulberrywoodwharf.org

At Mulberry Wood Wharf, we value your input and want to make sure your voice is heard. We serve families from a variety of backgrounds, and it is important to us that our PSHE and RHE curriculum is inclusive, respectful, and appropriate for all our pupils.

This is not a new concept—every school teaches PSHE and RHE—but I have experience implementing this curriculum in a previous school, and the feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive. They appreciated our openness and the fact that we involved them in the process. With that in mind, please do take the time to attend one of the workshops. The units of work will not be taught until the summer term, so we have plenty of time to discuss, adjust, and share our curriculum and policy.

I look forward to seeing you at the workshops and working together to ensure that our approach to Relationships and Health Education is the best it can be for our pupils.

We will send out some separate flyers and a sign-up sheet, but workshops will be:

Monday 3rd Feb: 3.45pm-4.30pm

Thursday 6th Feb: 9.00-10.00am

Tuesday 11th Feb: 5.00-5.45pm

Thursday 27th Feb: 9.00-10.00am

Tuesday 4th March: 5.00-5.45pm

Yours sincerely

Sarah Jane

Executive Headteacher

