



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Thursday 16th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Personal Development at Wadham School

As part of your child's education at Wadham School we promote wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal Development (PD) programme. This is the curriculum subject that gives children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

The curriculum content is taught under three main headings (*Relationship Education, Health & Wellbeing* and *Living in the Wider World*) and is taught in a spiral format, so topics are covered in an age-appropriate manner and revisited as students get older. To find more information about the content of the PD curriculum, please follow the relevant links and scroll to 'Personal Development':

- 5-year overview: [Wadham School - 5 Year Curriculum](#)
- Year 7: [Wadham School - Year 7 Learning](#)
- Year 8: [Wadham School - Year 8 Learning](#)
- Year 9: [Wadham School - Year 9 Learning](#)
- Year 10: [Wadham School - Year 10 Learning](#)
- Year 11: [Wadham School - Year 11 Learning](#)

Why is a Relationships & Sex Education (RSE) curriculum needed?

There are three main aims for teaching RSE within the context of Secondary School Personal Development Education:

- More than ever before, children are exposed to representations of sex and sexuality through the social culture around them. Unregulated content on the internet or social media can mean children may be exposed to dangerous, confusing or scary content. We can prepare them for this by presenting a balanced view of positive healthy relationships to help them to be discerning and to stay safe.
- There is much independent research showing most parents and carers value the support of schools in providing Relationship and Sex Education for their children. Parents and schools want children to be safe and happy.
- A range of independent research consistently shows that effective RSE delays first sexual experiences and reduces risk-taking in young people.

These are some of the many reasons why the Department for Education made Relationships and Sex Education compulsory in 2020.

At Wadham, we closely follow guidance from the Department for Education and the PSHE Association, which sets out an age-appropriate curriculum.

The role of parents in the development of their children's understanding about relationships is vital. Parents are the first teachers of their children. They have the most significant influence in enabling their children to grow and mature and to form healthy relationships.



Yeovil Road, Crewkerne, Somerset. TA18 7NT Telephone 01460 270123
Website : www.wadhamschool.co.uk E-Mail : office@wadhamschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr R Burgas
Chair of Governors: Mr C Chapman



As a school, we feel Relationships and Sex Education is a partnership between parents and school and therefore engaging with parents about the content of our curriculum is an important part of providing a high-quality programme.

Therefore, I must make you aware that parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of Sex Education delivered as part of statutory RSE. This is any lesson which covers the mechanics of sexual intercourse.

Should you wish to withdraw your child from any aspect of Sex Education, other than those covered in Science lessons, please do arrange an appointment to discuss your request. If you would like to view the PSHE Policy, please follow this link: [Policies](#)

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Martin
Lead Teacher for Personal Development