

September 2025

Dear Parents & Carers

I write to update you on our PSHCE lessons this academic year. PSHCE is a timetabled subject that includes our statutory requirements for delivering PSHE and citizenship, with every student having one lesson a fortnight. PSHCE includes the Department for Education's (DfE) guidance on what schools have to teach for relationships, sex education, health and wellbeing, alongside other topics and themes that we feel are relevant to our students. Some of these themes are also covered in tutor time, assemblies and our Super Learning Days.

PSHCE sessions will include teaching about healthy relationships, including friendships and intimate relationships; families; growing and changing, including puberty; personal hygiene; changing feelings; becoming more independent; keeping safe and consent; drug education; developing self-esteem and confidence. All PSHCE teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. [Curriculum overviews](#) can be found on our website providing further information and highlights when topics are covered in lessons. The curriculum has not been amended since the updates last academic year.

The DfE guidance outlining the rights of parents and guardians to remove their child from certain lessons is shown below:

Parents/Guardians will have a right to withdraw their child from sex education delivered as part of the curriculum in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, should be granted up to three terms before their child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent.

Source: [Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) and Health Education, DfE](#)

Parents and carers do not have the right to withdraw their child from relationship aspects lessons or those that form part of the Science National Curriculum. Further details about the process for withdrawing your child can be found in our Sex and Relationships Policy alongside a consultation document on our website: <https://www.marshlandhigh.co.uk/policies>

We would be happy to run a Parents' and Carers' Support and Information Evening, so if you have any specific questions regarding the PSHCE Curriculum that you would like answered, or view any curriculum materials, please register with the form using the link

<https://forms.gle/hgoWDp9HUguKJ3H67> and we will respond directly to you.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to email office@marshlandhigh.co.uk.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Marshland High School.

Yours faithfully,

Mr J Crawley

Deputy Headteacher



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