

# Growing up and keeping safe ~ a “Whole School Approach”

In response to our changing society and the impact of the Internet, Government has now decided to introduce statutory Relationship Education to Primary Schools, these lessons are not new and have been delivered in good Primary Schools since the last guidance in 2000, however some of the content has now been updated to help keep children safer.

School is here to help; we are engaging the support of the specialist organisation BigTalk Education, whose expertise was sought by the MP’s Women & Equalities Committee in 2016. They work with 3 ~ 18 year olds and have been involved in delivering age appropriate education of this type for over 20 years, they also deliver training for Professionals, Parents & Carers.

Below is the Programme that will be delivered to the Children by BigTalk, it reflects the **Ofsted & SEF recommendations**.

**Ages 4~8 (Foundation) ~ School Years 1, 2 & 3)** A recap of Nursery input, plus we use specially drawn cards which show situations which are ok “thumbs up” or which may be risky “thumbs down” (e.g. other children or adults taking inappropriate photographs of them) and who they can talk to if they have any concerns

**Ages 8~9 (School Year 4)** We cover different kinds of families, similarities and differences between boys and girls, the emotional and physical changes of growing up (puberty) and how babies are made, then develop in the womb etc. (reproduction). Looking after our bodies and how to be safe and healthy are also discussed

**Ages 9-11 (School Years 5 & 6)** Reproduction and puberty are re-capped, the children are given the opportunity to ask questions. They will often want more details on how babies develop and are born. Sometimes they ask if people can get germs from sex and how they can be prevented or there may be curiosity about feelings or body image, each group is different. Again it is important they know there is someone in school as well as at home if they want help, advice or information about puberty, reproduction etc. (Information at this stage is vital to protect them as they move onto Senior School

All the resources BigTalk Education use are age appropriate and help keep children protected from unwanted touches, abuse, exploitation and inappropriate images etc. Research now shows that children receiving this type of education are three times more likely to speak out if they are touched inappropriately etc.

Please come along to the **Parent Information Session on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm** when a Facilitator from BigTalk Education will cover in greater detail what is included and the vital role Parents/Carers can play in keeping their children safe both now and into their teenage years. There will also be an opportunity to ask any questions as a small group or individually.

**The book that accompanies this Programme “Bodies, Babies and Bellybuttons” will be available to purchase at the meeting at the discounted price of £8 (20% reduction on the usual on-line price of £9.99)**

.....**Tear off complete and return** .....

I will be attending the meeting for Parent/Carers meeting on .....

My Name .....

Name(s) of child(ren) .....Year Group(s) .....

