



# Ringwood School

Dear Parents and Carers

The Personal Development curriculum, known as PSHE, for years 7-13 at Ringwood School is constantly being reviewed and updated in line with official guidance and the challenges our students face in today's society. We are delighted that the move to a 2 week timetable, has meant more dedicated time to this vital curriculum area for all our students.

Here is the link to the whole school overview of the PSHE curriculum for this current academic year <https://www.ringwood.hants.sch.uk/pshe>

The curriculum encompasses a wide range of topics which are relevant to the lives of our students and in preparation for independent living in modern Britain. The curriculum is designed to facilitate independent learning through interactive discussions, external speakers and thought-provoking messages. This allows our students the essential tools to make informed choices, enabling them to live healthy and happy lives both now and in the future. These may at times include topics which are of a sensitive or controversial nature, the purpose of which is to allow students to understand 'real' world issues.

The Department for Education announced changes to relationships and sex education (RSE) in 2020 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education?v=1725439680>

In March 2023 they announced that they would be conducting a review of this guidance and we are awaiting a further update from the new Government.

The relevant curriculum maps can be found on our website. More details of some topics will often be sent to parents and carers, closer to the time to ensure you have the opportunity to discuss the content with your child ahead of time, if you wish to or alert their teacher if there is a particular sensitivity.

Ringwood School is a member of the PSHE Association and our curriculum is written using their guidance, to ensure all statutory elements are incorporated.

We hope the education students receive in school supports the education they receive at home. We shall be updating our website with guidance if you would like any further information about how to discuss these issues with your child.

Our Relationships and Sex Education policy can be found here:

<https://www.ringwood.hants.sch.uk/policies/>

Please do take the time to review the content your son / daughter will be covering this upcoming academic year and if you have any queries, or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards

Mrs Vicki Lewis

**Head of Personal Development**

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