

29 June 2017

RB/JB

Dear Parent/Carer

**Year 9 SRE/PSHE Days - Monday 3 July (9BW) and Thursday 6 July (9CL)**

On each of the above days half of our Year 9 students will be involved in a day focusing on Sex and Relationships Education and Personal Safety. There will be 5 sessions on each day: Same Sex Relationships, Sexual Responsibility, Sexual Exploitation, Alcohol Awareness and Personal Identity.

The Department of Education requires schools to provide students with information on personal relationships and safety that will enable them to make informed choices and thus safeguard their personal well-being. At Carre's we seek to deliver a Sex and Relationship Education programme that provides students with age appropriate information, explores attitudes and values, and develops skills in order to empower them to make positive decisions and choices in their relationships and social activities. Parents and carers, of course, might wish to support these sessions with their own discussions at home.

The **Same Sex Relationships** session will give students the opportunity to consider their views on same sex relationships. We are currently using material produced by Channel 4, a series of video diaries and dramas that explore key themes surrounding personal relationships. This session explores the experience of being gay or lesbian through the experiences of different individuals and how this has impacted on them at different stages of their personal life. The **Sexual Exploitation** session will use a resource from the Child Exploitation and Online Protection unit (CEOP) which is now part of the National Crime Agency. The session explores the nature of exploitative relationships and will emphasise the need for mutual respect in personal relationships. These two sessions will be delivered by members of the Student Support Team at school. The session on **Sexual Responsibility** will explore issues around consent, safer sex and pregnancy.

The session on **Alcohol Awareness** will explore the impact and misuse of this "legal" substance. The risks associated with its abuse and misuse are ones that the majority of young people will face. These sessions aim to raise awareness of the dangers posed to personal health and safety. We also felt it made sense to equip students with basic First Aid skills so that they can respond to the needs of a peer whose over-indulgence could have resulted in injury or unconsciousness and the Year 9 students recently had a session on basic First Aid response delivered by the Lincolnshire Lives volunteers as part of their Curriculum Day.

During the session on **Personal identity** we will be exploring what shapes our identity as individuals and what diversity looks like in a 21<sup>st</sup> century society. Our aim is to open the discussion around current key concerns such as gender identity, racism and hate crimes, radicalisation and religious practices that are in conflict with our laws such as Female Genital Mutilation, Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage. We want our young people to be both confident in their own identity and to be able to understand and respect how others might arrive at a different identity or need to be protected.

Parents have the right to withdraw their son from Sex and Relationship sessions. Any parent wishing to exercise this right should, in the first instance, contact me or Mrs Goymer, Head of Year 9, at school.

Yours faithfully



**Rosemary Brooks**

Lead Person for Safeguarding and SRE Coordinator