Academy Transformation Trust

ICENI ACADEMY SECONDARY

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the coming academic year, all pupils will engage in their statutory Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) lessons as part of the school's PSHE curriculum.

At Iceni Academy, we believe that promoting the health and wellbeing of our pupils is an important part of their overall education. Through our PSHE curriculum, we aim to help pupils make safe, informed, and responsible decisions during their school years and beyond.

Relationship and Sex Education is an important part of the Iceni Academy curriculum. As part of the Sex Education component, pupils will take part in lessons throughout the year covering topics such as healthy one-to-one relationships, consent, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), contraception, and the law and risks relating to sexually explicit digital media. All content is carefully planned and delivered in an age-appropriate manner, taking into account pupils' stage of development and ensuring that information is presented sensitively and appropriately.

During these lessons, pupils will have the opportunity to ask questions, which will be answered factually and in an age-appropriate manner. Every pupil's privacy will be respected, and no one will be asked to disclose personal information. Teaching materials and discussions are selected to ensure that pupils receive information that is suitable for their age, maturity, and understanding.

The majority of the RSE curriculum is compulsory and must be taught in line with national guidance. However, parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from the non-statutory Sex Education elements of RSE up to and until three terms before their child turns 16. After this point, if the young person wishes to receive Sex Education rather than remain withdrawn, the school will arrange for this to happen.

Requests for withdrawal should be made in writing, in accordance with our RSE Policy, and addressed to the Principal. A copy of any withdrawal request will be placed on the pupil's educational record. The Principal, or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, will discuss the request with parents/carers and take appropriate action. Suitable educational work will be provided for pupils who are withdrawn from Sex Education lessons. There is no right to withdraw from the statutory Relationships Education content.

Many pupils will discuss issues covered in Sex Education lessons with their peers and will encounter related topics through wider society and the media. Therefore, rather than hearing about these subjects second-hand, we hope all pupils will have the opportunity to take part in our carefully planned lessons.

You may find that your child begins asking questions about these topics at home, or you may wish to take the opportunity to discuss these issues with them before they are covered in school.

If you have any questions about the content of the programme or the resources used, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Haymes