

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Statutory relationships education, relationships and sex education and health education</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>15.6.20</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Deb Austin</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Sam Beal</b>	<b>Tel: 01273 293533</b>
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<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

1.1 The purpose of this report is inform committee of support being provided to Brighton & Hove schools ahead of the introduction of statutory relationships, relationships and sex education and health education (RSHE) in September 2020.

1.2 The Department for Education statutory guidance on relationships, relationships and sex education and health education can be found here:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

2.1 That committee agree a statement supporting Brighton & Hove schools in taking inclusive approaches to RSHE and encouraging them to actively engage with their diverse parent and carer communities.

2.2 That committee agrees to recommend the PSHE Association [Programme of Study for PSHE Education Key Stages 1-5](#) to all Brighton & Hove Schools as the basis of their PSHE curriculum. This will build on the previous Brighton & Hove Programme of Study and be in line with statutory requirements.

**3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

3.1 The council has a long history of providing support to schools in improving the quality of teaching and learning in Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) through termly networks, training, consultancy and resource and guidance development.

3.2 The council has won Stonewall awards for support for schools in preventing homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying. The PSHE Service provides

resources and guidance to schools to support teaching and learning about all forms of equality and bullying through the PSHE curriculum.

- 3.3 The Brighton & Hove PSHE Service is funded by Public Health and provides 3.5 days a week of support to primary, secondary and special schools. In school training and consultancy for primary schools is charged for.
- 3.4 Brighton & Hove schools which follow the Brighton & Hove PSHE Education Programme of Study will already be covering most of the key content set out in the statutory guidance.
- 3.5 The PSHE Service works in partnership with a range of services and organisations to ensure the advice given and resources developed is up to date. This includes national organisations such as the Sex Education Forum, the PSHE Association and Stonewall, local charities such as Allsorts Youth Project, Terence Higgins Trust, Wise and Right Here and other Brighton & Hove services such as ru-ok? and the Primary Mental Health Team. We also work in partnership with the dioceses.
- 3.6 Schools have been sent a suggested timeline for preparing for statutory relationships, sex and health education and this outlines support being provided by the PSHE Service over the next two years.
- 3.7 A range of materials have been provided to schools on the Services to Schools website [www.BEEM.org.uk](http://www.BEEM.org.uk) to support them to prepare for September 2020. This includes materials to support engagement with parents and carers from a range of backgrounds and an example PSHE Policy that local faith leaders were consulted on.
- 3.8 The national PSHE Association has reviewed its Programme of Study to reflect statutory changes. This provides coverage wider than the statutory guidance and includes economic wellbeing. The PSHE Service would like to recommend this to schools, replacing the Brighton & Hove PSHE Education Programme of Study, 2014.
- 3.9 The PSHE Service will focus in the next academic year in supporting schools to assess learning and to ensure that PSHE is accessible to pupils and students with special educational needs and disabilities. We will continue to ensure our resources also provide age appropriate learning opportunities to keep children and young people safe on and off line.

### **3.10 Proposed statement for schools, from committee:**

Our city is well-known for its free thinking, open and inclusive nature. We promote acceptance and respect for difference. These things are at the heart of what we do.

We would like to thank our schools for the work they do to plan and deliver personal, social, health and economic education.

This curriculum area helps ensure that our children and young people have the knowledge and skills they need to lead safe, happy and healthy lives now and in the future.

We whole-heartedly support the work schools do in partnership with our PSHE service and the Allsorts Youth Project to encourage an inclusive approach to relationships education.

This ensures that all children and young people see their families represented in school. It enables them to understand and respect in age-appropriate ways the diversity of sexual orientations and gender identities in Brighton & Hove, and prepares them for life in the modern world.

We believe that this approach helps prevent bullying, and contributes to the duties schools have under the Equality Act.

Two big changes are happening in September 2020:

- relationships and health education will be a statutory part of the primary curriculum, and
- relationships, sex and health education a statutory part of the secondary curriculum.

Schools will continue to be offered support through our PSHE Service to ensure this part of the curriculum meets the needs of all children and young people and helps keep them safe in these challenging times.

We recognise that schools are responsible for the detail of the curriculum in school. Our hope is that Brighton & Hove's primary schools will choose to deliver non-statutory sex education – as many have already been doing for some time – as this supports learning about puberty and helps them with the questions children ask.

We will continue to support schools to listen to any concerns raised by their parent and carer communities about this part of the curriculum. We hope schools will be able offer reassurance and agree shared values.

Guidance for schools produced locally will continue to promote LGBT inclusive approaches. We believe this helps:

- prevent sexism, homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying
- supports wellbeing, and
- ensures all pupils and students are prepared for life and work in the modern world.

Guidance will also encourage schools to improve the way the PSHE curriculum is used to challenge other forms of prejudice. These include racism, religiously motivated hate and that directed towards people with disabilities.

Our vision is for a fairer city with a sustainable future. We believe that by working with our schools to promote equality and inclusion we can achieve this.

#### **4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

4.1 This is a statutory duty on schools.

#### **5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

5.1 The PSHE Service in partnership with Brighton & Hove Faith in Action has held engagement sessions with a range of faith leaders who have contributed to a PSHE example policy for Brighton & Hove schools. It is hoped that this will be an ongoing conversation and that issues raised by communities will be directed to the PSHE Service.

5.2 The PSHE Service has provided resources and training to schools to support them to engage with parents, carers, pupils and students within their schools.

#### **6. CONCLUSION**

6.1 There is a lot of good practice in PSHE in Brighton & Hove schools but more work to do to ensure that all children and young people receive their statutory entitlement delivered in an effective way.

#### **7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

7.1 There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendations of this report.

*Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis*

*Date: 18/03/20*

##### Legal Implications:

7.2 The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, which come into force on 1 September 2020, set out the new statutory requirements for relationships and sex education and health education (RSHE) in maintained schools. The Regulations make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education, and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory for all pupils receiving secondary education. They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools.

*Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston  
12.02.2020*

*Name Date:*

##### Equalities Implications:

7.3 The PSHE Service pays due regard to the protected groups identified in the Equality Act and work hard to represent the diversity of the school community in resources developed and the approaches taken.

7.4 The PSHE Service is open to feedback on how we could do this better.

Sustainability Implications:

7.5 The resources and training provide by the PSHE Service aims to build capacity within schools to deliver effective PSHE education.

Any Other Significant Implications:

None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

None

Public Health Implications:

7.8 The PSHE Service is Public Health funded in recognition that effective PSHE education contributes to improved wellbeing and reduction in for example unplanned teenage pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections and substance misuse.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

7.9 None

