



Dromore Central Primary School
25 Mossvale Road
DROMORE
BT25 1DG

Tel: 028 9269 2134

Principal: Mrs L M Allen MEd DASE (Sc) PQH ALCM

4th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Consultation

As you may already be aware, The Department of Education wrote to schools on 28th June 2023 advising that the Secretary of State had made Regulations to amend the Education (Curriculum Minimum Content) Order 2007 (Northern Ireland) to add additional topics to the RSE curriculum at Key Stages 3 and 4. To date, there are no known plans to update the teaching content of RSE within the Primary School years.

The changes apply only to specific elements of the RSE curriculum at post-primary, namely that: "The curriculum for every grant-aided school shall, in relation to key stages 3 and 4, include age-appropriate, comprehensive and scientifically accurate education on sexual and reproductive health and rights, covering prevention of early pregnancy and access to abortion."

The Regulations also enable the Department to make provision for, at the request of a parent, a pupil to be excused from specific RSE lessons that contain age-appropriate, comprehensive and scientifically accurate education on sexual and reproductive health and rights, covering prevention of early pregnancy and access to abortion.

The Department of Education has launched a full consultation on the circumstances and arrangements which would enable a parent to excuse their child. The consultation will run from 1 September until 24 November 2023. Although, at the moment, there are no proposed changes within the primary school setting, this consultation is open to ALL parents.

Your response can be made either:

- Online at <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/de/rse-consultation> OR
- Using the QR code below:



There is also a Consultation Booklet available to download from Consultations/Department of Education (education-ni.gov.uk) and can be emailed directly to the Department at rsresponse@education-ni.gov.uk or posted to:

Curriculum Team
Room S1
Rathgael House
Balloo Road, Rathgill
Bangor
BT19 7PR

We would encourage all interested parties to make a response to this consultation at their earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

L M Allen

H M Bentley

Co-Principals