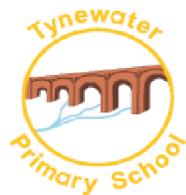


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**EDUCATION
DIVISION**



Midlothian



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Dear Parent/Carer

Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education (RSHP)

Each term your child will be learning more about relationships, sexual health and parenthood in line with the [Health and Wellbeing Experiences and Outcomes and Benchmarks](#) from the Curriculum for Excellence.

It is important that all children have an understanding of this area, appropriate to their age and stage of development. Midlothian Council believes it is the right of all our pupils to take part in this aspect of the Scottish Curriculum based on the UNCRC (United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child) stating that;

“11. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has emphasised that states parties must “ensure that children have the ability to acquire the knowledge and skills to protect themselves and others as they begin to express their sexuality.”

[Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools, The Scottish Government, December 2014:](#)

The aims of our school RSHP programme are to:

- Develop an understanding of how to maintain positive relationships with a variety of people
- Develop an awareness of how thoughts, feelings, attitudes, values and beliefs can influence decisions about relationships, and sexual health
- Develop understanding of the complex roles and responsibilities of being a parent or carer

Some parents/carers may be concerned about the teaching of this part of the curriculum. However, we know that children are exposed to information through various forms of modern media and through discussions had or overheard amongst peers. Informal learning about such important matters may be confusing, alarming, biased or simply incorrect.

It is important that pupils learn about relationships, sexual health and parenthood in a factual and age appropriate way safely with trusted adults.

If you do have concerns, please read the [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) on the [RSHP website](#). I am happy to discuss any additional concerns you may have that are not covered in the FAQs.

Withdrawal of a child from RSHP must be done from an informed position of understanding the importance of health education for all children.

[Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools, The Scottish Government, December 2014](#) states:

“57. In the instance of a parent wishing to withdraw a school aged child from sexual health education lessons, schools must remind parents of the child’s right to an education and to participate, bearing in mind their age and maturity. Where, after due consideration...the parent or carer decides to withdraw a school aged child from sexual health education lessons, arrangements should be made for the child to have alternative positive educational provision, which meets the Health and Wellbeing outcomes.”

I would like to thank you in advance for your support in this matter and look forward to continued partnership working with you for the benefit of your child.

Yours faithfully,

Louise Mitrakas
Head Teacher
Tynewater Primary School

Please find below the topics that Primary 2 will cover in RHSP this year.

<u>Term</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Learning Intentions</u>
Term 3	<p>My Body</p> <p>Privacy</p> <p>Friends and Friendships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children learn the correct names for parts of their body, including male and female genitalia, and their functions. ● Children learn the concept of bodily autonomy – that their body is their body. ● Children learn that parts of their body are private. ● Children learn that other children/people also have the right to privacy. ● Children learn help-seeking behaviours. ● Children learn how friendships are formed and nurtured. ● Children identify who to go to if they are worried or concerned about peer relationships. ● Children consider the feelings associated with friendship.
Term 4	<p>Looking after plants and animals</p> <p>People who help and look after me</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children learn what plants (fruit and vegetables) and animals (pets) need to grow and develop. ● Children learn that all living things need to be cared for and nurtured. ● Children begin to relate their learning to their own development and growth. ● Children know that there are adults in their lives who care for them and look after them; this includes professional people. ● Children understand that who these adults are can be different for children. ● Children understand that care can be physical and emotional.