

Year 5 - Curriculum for Life - PSHE

Dear Parents & Carers

Curriculum for Life sessions this half term.

At Eastcote, learning about hurtful and bullying behaviour is ongoing throughout primary school via targeted lessons, school assemblies and themed days (e.g. odd sock day). Over the summer term some 'Curriculum for Life' lessons in Year 5 will be building on this knowledge to consider how language relating to personal identity might be used and linked to bullying behaviour. This will be built upon further in Year 6, before children leave us to embark on life in secondary school.

Children may come home and tell you about learning linked to this theme. They may be seeking clarification and asking you questions. Below you will find some key vocabulary that we will introduce in lessons. You may find that knowing this information yourself in advance will enable you to prepare for children's questions, using words and phrases that will help children make important links. We hope you find this useful.

Sex - a term used to describe the 'private parts' that someone is born with. 'Private parts' determine whether a person is a boy or a girl.

Gender - a term used to describe whether someone *feels* like a girl or a boy (what society defines as girl or boy behaviour/dressing, for example)

Transgender - Some people do not feel the same as the sex that they were born. This is known as 'transgender'

Gay or lesbian - Some people fall in love with people of the opposite gender to them. Some people fall in love with people of the same gender as them and this is known as being 'gay' or 'lesbian'.

The purpose of these lessons is for children to understand that

- we are all different and have different likes and dislikes to each other. **This includes our identities and how we like to express our identity.**
- it is **never** OK for someone to be unkind to another person because of their identity or who they fall in love with.
- they can **talk to trusted adults** if they ever have any concerns or questions about what has been taught in the lesson.

We are aware that this is likely to be new vocabulary for children. We also know that pupils use phones, laptops and other internet-enabled devices that can expose them to language that is new and often incorrectly - sometimes insultingly - defined and used. We want to offer a safe environment for children to learn the new terms in a factual way so that they may have greater respect and understanding in the modern world.

Our 'Curriculum for Life' RSHE policy is available on the school website for you to view at any time which outlines our approach across the school.

We hope you find this helpful and informative.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Ms Lacy