



17th June 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

I am writing in response to the recent publication of the OFSTED [Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges](#) report, released earlier this week. The report findings, based on visits to a sample of schools nationally, are truly shocking and we will be looking carefully at how to implement the recommendations and to improve the culture within our school. This letter outlines our current policies and practices that help to address and educate our young people around the issues raised in the report.

Curriculum and education

At Reddish Vale High School, we prioritise the Relationships & Sex education of our pupils, including the themes discussed in the report, through our curriculum and pastoral programme. Our curriculum meets the Department for Education's (DfE) [statutory requirements](#), and has been developed in line with the Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE) Association's recommended curriculum to ensure a high quality provision in which pupils explore issues that are both essential and relevant. Pupil voice is highly valued in shaping our curriculum, as we believe our pupils should have a say in this important element of their education. Our curriculum is supported by external agencies who can deliver specialist workshops to our pupils to further enhance pupil knowledge and understanding of the themes across the curriculum.

Below are a number of links to documents you may find useful:

[DfE parent's guide on the RSE curriculum](#)

[Reddish Vale High School RSE policy](#)

[Reddish Vale High School PSHE curriculum overview](#)

Reporting procedures

We encourage pupils to report any incidences of poor or inappropriate behaviour and this includes youth produced sexual imagery, sexual harassment or sexual assault. We encourage pupils to speak to any member of staff they feel comfortable talking to; this includes teachers, tutors, pastoral, safeguarding team, counsellors and all support staff. Pupils have also been signposted to external agencies such as KOOOTH. Alternatively, parents/carers can contact the school with any concerns. When any incidences of youth produced sexual imagery, sexual harassment or sexual assault are reported to school we take appropriate action following the relevant guidance below:

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- UK Council for Internet Safety's advice for education settings Sharing Nudes and Semi Nudes
- The government document Keeping Children Safe in Education KCSIE 2020 which all staff read at the start of the academic year
- The guidance in the government document Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment between Children in Schools and Colleges Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment between Children in Schools and Colleges

We keep records of any incidences of this nature. Our safeguarding procedures are assessed as part of the Ofsted inspection framework and we have recently received a positive external safeguarding audit.

Following the report, it is likely that further recommendations to schools will be put in place. Reddish Vale are committed to ensuring all recommendations are acted upon and will inform you of any further changes. We will continue to review and improve our pastoral programme and curriculum, and regularly update safeguarding policies and procedures in line with guidance.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Hanson
Headteacher

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