

20th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

To keep children as safe as possible **Relationship Education is now statutory in all Primary Schools**, we are engaging the support of the specialist organisation BigTalk Education, who are a Social Enterprise recognised by national lead bodies and the Government.

On 7th July, we will welcome Big Talk into Willow; it will be the fourth time that we will work with them to deliver this essential part of our safeguarding curriculum.

They will deliver a programme to all children called 'Growing Up Safe'.

Below is some information on the Growing Up Safe programme:

- **Ages 4 to 8 (Reception School Years 1, 2 & 3)** Using specially designed child-friendly resources at the end of this session they will be able to identify happy situations within relationships, and those which may be risky (e.g., other children or adults taking improper photographs of them, inappropriate touches, exposure to unsuitable media etc.) Plus, whom they can talk to if they are worried.
- **Ages 8 to 9 (School Year 4)** They cover different kinds of families, similarities and differences between boys and girls, the emotional and physical changes of growing up (puberty) how babies are made, then develop in the womb etc. (reproduction). They also talk about how to look after our bodies and be safe and healthy.
- **Ages 9 to 11 (School Years 5 & 6)** Reproduction and puberty are re-capped, the children are given the opportunity to ask questions. As well as additional clarification on puberty, they will often want more details on how babies develop and are born. It is important that they know there is someone in school as well as at home if they want help, advice or more information etc. Providing information at this stage is vital to protect them as they move towards and onto Secondary School and to provide an alternative to Google etc.

All the resources BigTalk Education use are age appropriate and help keep children protected from unwanted touches, abuse, and exposure to unsuitable images etc.

Further information for parents and carers on the above can be found on: www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/parents and I urge you to take a look.

This year, we are providing the information to all parents via videos rather than having a face-to-face meeting because we know not all parents can attend the meeting in school and we want the information to be accessible to everyone.

The Parent presentation videos can be found on this link <https://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/year-by-year/>
Use the password **Happy&Safe** to gain access to the parents' videos.

In addition, "**Bodies, Babies and Bellybuttons**" is the BigTalk book which accompanies the Growing Up Safe programme. This is a great resource for parents and carers and can be ordered online from www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk on their Resources page.

Should you require any further information BigTalk Education can be contacted on admin@bigtalkeducation.co.uk.

Yours Sincerely
Mrs Sumner
Principal