



Olney Infant Academy *Happily Learning Together*



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Last academic year we began implementing the PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) Programme across our school called Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE. This approach has also been adopted by the Middle School. We have always taught RSHE to our children at OIA but now we have a whole school approach that includes lessons throughout the year on topics like anti-bullying, healthy friendships, keeping our bodies fit and healthy, staying safe, growth, changes and many more. Our aim is to carefully build on children's understandings of these things each year and we do this in an age-appropriate and sensitive way. The lessons introduced during the year, built children's emotional literacy, self-esteem and knowledge of who they are and how they relate to each other and the world in a positive and healthy way. Due to the disruption to schooling over the last couple of years this has not been fully embedded. As we move into this academic year, we will be fully teaching the Jigsaw programme. As part of this process and change in content, we are launching a new consultation window with parents, giving you the opportunity to share your views. As the materials are new, we warmly invite you to read through our curriculum intent for PSHE, our policy and a guide to JIGSAW for parents. We welcome you to share your thoughts with us and our PSHE lead Miss Sheaf (based at OMS).

Any parent wishing to speak to either a member of the senior leadership team or Miss Sheaf, can do so by contacting the school office at admin@olneyinfant.org by the 20th September 2021. Any email feedback can also be sent direct to Miss Sheaf: misssheaf@olneymiddle.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Here you will find [a guide for parents](#) and [FAQ](#) sheet.

The main change is that RSHE or PSHE (physical, social and health education) as it's also known has largely become a compulsory foundation subject, so it is now part of the National Curriculum which all schools need to follow.

We hope you will agree with us that this work is vitally important for children, that it needs to be done age-appropriately and that the Jigsaw Programme gives us a secure framework in which to do this. However, we do as always want to work in partnership with parents and carers, and also wish to inform you of your legal right to withdraw your children from some aspects of this work later in their primary years as they reach year 4.

We hope you, like us, will see the materials in Jigsaw as educationally sound and beneficial to our children, helping to safeguard them.



I have also attached to this letter:

- An overview of what the children will be learning in Jigsaw PSHE/RSHE up to Year 6.
- Our proposed RSHE policy for 20/22

You may find it helpful to listen to [what children say about Jigsaw](#)

Thank you for your support, your views are very important to us.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sarah Armitage', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Armitage
Headteacher

Ella Sheaf
PSHE/RSE lead