

15 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Ofsted review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges

I wanted to make you aware that Ofsted have published their findings from a recent review into sexual abuse in schools and colleges. This review was commissioned in response to the concerns being raised through the large number of anonymous postings on the Everyone's Invited website regarding experiences involving harassment and abuse of young people, some of which has happened in schools.

The research and analysis report can be found [here](#), and will stimulate further discussion, review and action planning in Hertfordshire to ensure that we make our schools as safe as possible for all young people.

Education around healthy relationships has long been established in our school but recently the Department for Education devised a new Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum that schools are required to deliver. This covers key issues in relation to sexual abuse and harassment, particularly the area of consent, at age-appropriate levels for children in different key stages.

The local authority has also commissioned a short-term working group to consider the issues arising from the Everyone's Invited initiative and the report into sexual abuse produced by Ofsted. The working group will collate guidance and materials to support all schools in Hertfordshire, helping them to provide a high quality RSE curriculum, which brings about excellent standards of behaviour and embeds a culture and ethos of safety for all learners.

I would like to assure you that this is a matter that is taken most seriously at our school, and that we will continue to work with families to promote a healthy and respectful environment for everyone.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Mitcherson
Headteacher