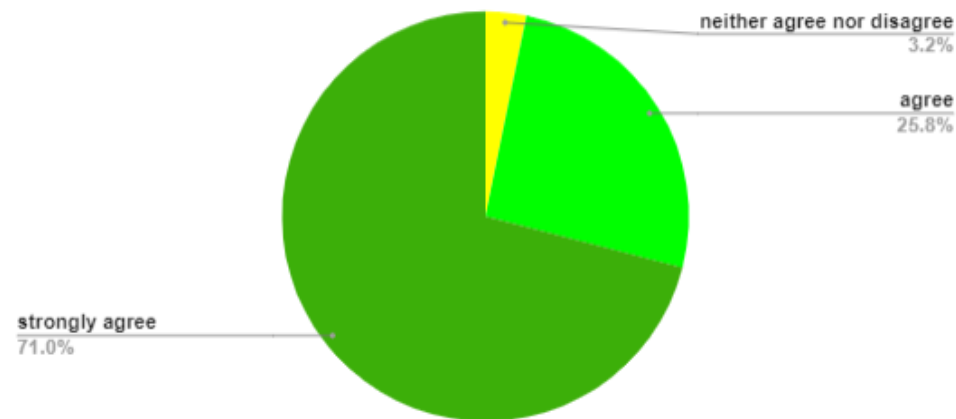


## Cavalry Primary School Report after parent consultation on RSE

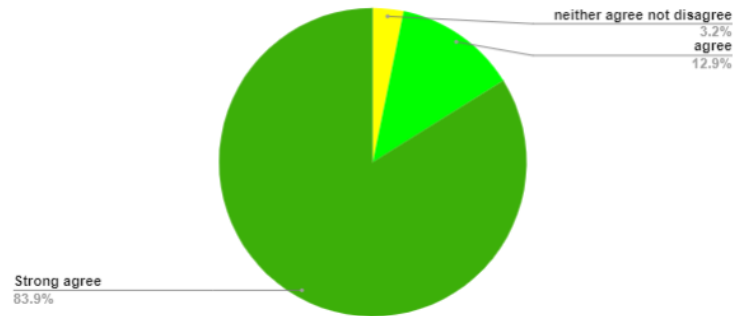
In April 2021, all parents/carers from Nursery to Year 5 were invited to respond to the consultation process for our new Relationships and Sex Education Policy. We received 31 responses, representing 52 children. Parents' feedback is summarised below, along with some responses from the school in blue.

1. I have received adequate information about the changes to Relationships Education, Health Education and Sex Education. (Government summary, draft school policy, appendices show proposed curriculum for each age group)



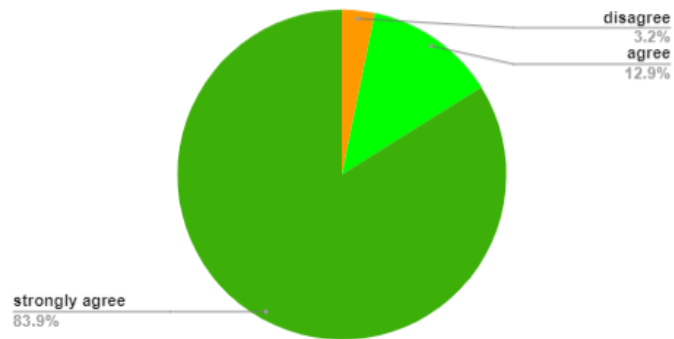
It is good to see that most parents felt enough information had been shared during the consultation process. We will continue to share information about this important subject area through the termly curriculum newsletters and specific topic summaries.

2. I support the school in their aims and objectives for RSE.



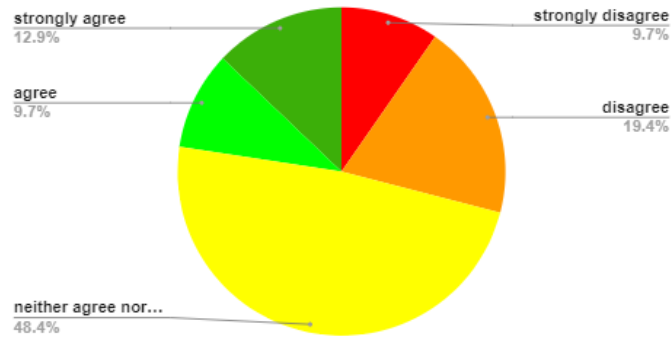
**We are pleased to see this very positive response to the aims of the curriculum.**

3. I think it will benefit the children at Cavalry to learn about how babies are made and how babies are born as part of the Year 6 curriculum.



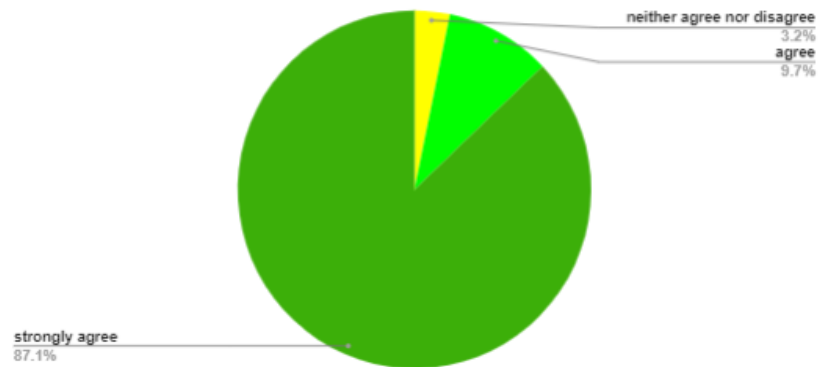
**As a result of this feedback, we will continue with our plans to include sex education in the curriculum taught to Year 6. Parents will have the right to withdraw their child from this aspect of PSHE if they wish.**

4. I would prefer to leave teaching about puberty and reproduction to the school.



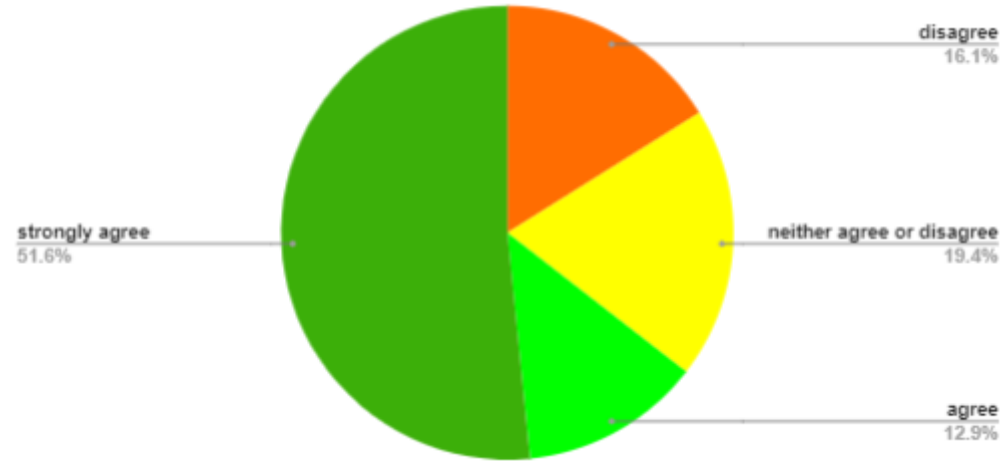
We think this indicates that many parents are keen to work alongside the school in helping their children learn about these topics. Where parents feel some hesitation, we hope to be able to offer support with recommended resources and websites.

5. I am comfortable about talking to my child about puberty, staying safe, families and sexual reproduction.



This is great to see! Where parents feel some hesitation, we hope to be able to offer support with recommended resources and websites.

6. I know who to go to in school if I have a question about Relationships, Health or Sex Education.



**We will continue to communicate with all parents about this, so families know that they can speak to their child's class teacher, the PSHE subject leader (Mrs Guerin) or the headteacher (Mrs McCallum) with any questions.**

7. I would like to support the school as they review their policy and provision for Relationships, Health and Sex Education by joining a working group of parents and staff.

**20 parents said 'yes'. This will make a fantastic group to work alongside school staff as we develop and refine our teaching units, and we will be in touch with these parents early in the autumn term to set up this working party. Any other parents who would like to join the working party will be most welcome too.**

8. In which year group do you think we should introduce these topics?

Topic	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
understanding about families and their responsibilities for children	6	6	4	7	3	4	3
<p><b>This topic is woven through all years, with the content pitched at different levels. So for example in Reception the children learn that mums and dads have to meet the basic needs of babies by washing and feeding them, whereas in Year 6 the children would be thinking about how adults in committed relationships take on the significant responsibilities of raising a family. All age groups, at their different levels, learn about the importance of being part of a loving family.</b></p>							
naming parts of the body including private parts	7	7	1	5	4	7	0
<p><b>This is introduced in Reception and revisited regularly as the children move through school because it is a key part of safeguarding children from abuse. If children cannot name the private parts of their bodies, they are not equipped to disclose to a trusted adult if abuse has taken place. With younger children we use the NSPCC ‘pants’ materials to get this message across in a non threatening way and with the older children we work with Childline to build a greater understanding.</b></p>							
building confidence to keep safe and ask for help	16	10	2	0	0	1	0
<p><b>Our curriculum supports the views shared by most parents here that keeping safe and asking for help should be introduced in a simple way with our youngest children, but again we come back to this many times exploring a wider range of situations as the children grow up.</b></p>							
preparing for puberty	0	0	0	5	6	18	2
<p><b>This is very helpful feedback for us. We plan to teach the units of work about preparing for puberty in the autumn term of Year 5, which aligns with the views of many parents. When our new working party meets it will be useful to discuss further what children in Year 3 and 4 need to know.</b></p>							

how a baby is made, develops and is born	0	0	1	4	3	13	9
<p><b>This is very helpful feedback for us. We plan to teach the units of work about conception and birth in the autumn term of Year 6, but we will keep this under review and discuss further with the working party whether it should be introduced to the children at an earlier stage.</b></p>							

9. Are there other areas which you feel your child should learn about in school? Your suggestions included:

- money/money management/scams/budgeting - **in Key Stage 2, PSHE includes two units of work about financial management. We don't teach the children specifically about financial scams, but we cover the importance of keeping passwords secret and being careful online in our e-safety lessons.**
- Healthy eating/preparing food - **every class experiences food preparation at least once every year as part of design technology. Healthy eating appears as a theme in PSHE (revisited at least 4 times during a child's journey through school) and is also part of the science curriculum. In addition, we often have a Healthy Eating theme week in the summer term. We have a healthy eating display in the hall near the serving station for school meals.**
- Friendships and relationships - **skills and understanding in these areas are taught explicitly in PSHE in every year group. We also spend lots of time modelling, discussing and reinforcing positive friendships in the day to day life of the classroom, when resolving disputes, and also in assemblies and through stories.**
- Consent - **secondary schools will teach the children more about consent in the context of sexual relationships. However, we lay the foundations for this in primary school by teaching about respect, by modelling that we need to ask permission (for example before we borrow someone else's belongings or in order to take photographs of another person), and by teaching the children about e-safety.**
- Mental health - **this has become an increasingly important part of the PSHE curriculum in the last couple of years.**
- LGBT community - **we teach the children that there are lots of different types of families through stories and activities we use in PSHE. The aim is that children feel acknowledged and included whether they live with a mum and a dad, a step parent, a single parent, a same sex couple, foster carers, kinships carers or any other arrangement. In primary schools the curriculum does not include learning about adult sexual relationships but our focus is to help children understand that positive, caring relationships should be at the heart of family life.**

10. What further information would you like? You were able to select as many options as you liked.

- 7 parents were interested in hearing a presentation in a virtual meeting
- 9 parents were interested in seeing teaching plans and resources
- 12 parents asked for a list of recommended websites and resources to be shared
- 18 parents asked for information about coverage through a termly topic summary

**From the start of the next school year, each time one of the relationships education units is taught, we will share information about coverage through a termly topic summary and also linked resources and websites for parents. In our working party meetings, we will share and discuss teaching plans and resources.**

One parent made this final comment: *'I think it's brilliant that these subjects are being taught at school. Some parents feel uncomfortable telling their children these things, or misinform their children. I think it helps with child protection issues knowing what is right and wrong in relationships. It's very positive.'*

We would like to thank all of the parents who took the time to respond to the consultation - we know how busy parents are, so to get 31 responses was fantastic and it has helped us to confirm that the developments in our curriculum are broadly supported by parents.

Natalie Guerin  
PSHE Subject leader  
June 2021

Fiona McCallum  
Headteacher