

At Oasis Aspinal we...

# Aspire, Aim high, Achieve



March 2021 | Issue 12



## Welcome!

### Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your amazing support again this half term. What a term it has been with a mixture of remote learning and returning to school. Your support has been really appreciated by all the staff. The children have been fantastic and have settled back into school again really well. They have enjoyed winning books from our new vending machine for World Book Day. The children in Key Stage 2 enjoyed the David Walliams assembly and children in Key Stage 1 enjoyed the work they did on Supertato. We had some fantastic potato characters created!

The children have had their new iPads and were very excited to receive them! They are used in lessons each day to aid learning so must be brought into school each day fully charged.

We are looking forward to Year 1 moving into their brand new classroom straight after Easter. Work will then begin on the new Early Years classroom which will be the old Year 1 and Nursery classrooms knocked into one large room. Daily updates are put onto the school Twitter and Facebook accounts (@oasisaspinal) if you wish to see daily photographs of the progress.

We have a new Family Support Worker, Clancey Chronnell who is funded by School Home Support, she is working in school on Mondays and Tuesdays. Here is a link to the website if you wish to find out more about the work School Home Support do: [www.schoolhomesupport.org.uk/how-we-help/children-and-families/information-for-families/](http://www.schoolhomesupport.org.uk/how-we-help/children-and-families/information-for-families/)

Please find the attendance information for each class since school fully reopened on the 8th March inside the newsletter. Thank you for your continued support on this, children have missed a lot of school with the two school closures and we want to make sure everyone is in school now every day. Children who have been absent relating to COVID are not counted as missing any days from school.

A reminder we have also updated our school website ([www.oasisacademyaspinal.org](http://www.oasisacademyaspinal.org)). Please make sure you check MCAS and have the app set so you receive notifications when new information is added to it. All letters will be attached to the app this year rather than sent out.

**Have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 19th April.**

### Miss Sweeting



Nursery	- 79.17%
Reception	- 93.22%
Year 1	- 93.41%
Year 2	- 97.91%
Year 3	- 96.13%
Year 4	- 94.49%
Year 5	- 96.74%
Year 6	- 96.41%
Whole School	- 95.94%

*This half terms attendance*

Contact us anytime at...



0161 223 0053



[www.oasisacademyaspinal.org](http://www.oasisacademyaspinal.org)



@oasisaspinal



[admin@oasisaspinal.org](mailto:admin@oasisaspinal.org)

**ASPIRE, AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE**

# Early Years Foundation Stage



What another 'strange' term - We were so happy to welcome all the children back to school in March. The children have come back into school so well and it is lovely to see friendships rekindling again.

**Safeguarding Week:** We learnt all about keeping ourselves safe in the home during the week, thinking about preventing trips, choking, falls and burns.

**Outdoor Shoes:** As we are entering the Summer term we are hopeful that the weather will remain warm, dry and sunny. There is no need for children to wear their wellies – but their change of shoes for outdoors – must be either Velcro fastening or slip ons – NO LACES!!

**Water Bottles:** Please ensure that your child has their water bottle in school EVERY day.

**Next Term our new Topic will be:** 'In the Garden' we will be learning about mini beasts / creatures that live in the garden.

**Have a wonderful Easter break and Thank You for your continued support**

**Miss Bailey, Mrs Currie and Mrs O'Brien**



# Year 1

Well, what a term that's been! We can hardly believe that we're almost in the final term of Year 1!

We are so happy to have all of the children back. They have all settled back in to school so well. We are proud of every single one of them. We have also welcomed three new friends into our class, Alexander, Abu and Eliza. The children have made them feel very welcome and we are seeing some lovely friendships developing already.

## English

In English we have looked at a version of The Three Billy Goats Gruff from 'The Story Tree' retold by Hugh Lupton. The children have thoroughly enjoyed retelling the story, acting out parts of the story, writing speech and thought bubbles, planning and writing their own version of the story, replacing the goats for sheep and the troll for a monster!

## Phonics and Reading

Before Christmas most of the children had made fantastic progress with their phonics and reading. In order to maintain this progress and prepare the children for Year 2 (and plug any gaps that may have occurred) it is crucial that the children practise these skills through reading and playing games from their phonics packs in short bursts, 10 minutes 4-5 times a week.

## Maths

In Maths we have focussed on numbers to 100, recognising, reading and writing numbers to 100, counting in tens and ones and using place value charts, using dienes to represent two digit numbers, finding one more or one less and ten more or ten less than numbers, and comparing and ordering numbers to 100.

## Science

Our Science unit this half term has been 'Identifying Plants'. The children have learned about different types of plants (wild plants and garden plants) and trees, they have learned about the parts of plants and the function of these parts as well as planting their own sunflower plant and making careful observations of it growing.

## History

In our History unit 'Old and New Toys' the children have learned about toys that their parents and grandparents played with in the past. They have compared them to their own toys, they have used Historical language such as 'Decade' and sorted decades in chronological order and they have used their Historical enquiry skills to ask and answer questions about the past.

## Art+OT

Our Art has linked nicely to our History this half term. We have looked at and described different types of puppets before designing and making our own sock puppets.

So as you can see we've been busy bees! Thank you to those that are reading regularly at home and practising key words, little and often is definitely the best approach and REALLY DOES MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE.

We have also welcomed Miss Gohari to our class and the children are responding brilliantly to her. The next newsletter will come 'live from our new classroom' – we are all very excited!

We wish you all a lovely relaxing Easter break!

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs McDonald, Mrs Cragg and Miss Stringer



# Year 2

Well this seems a little strange writing a newsletter when the majority of children have been make a matter of weeks.

Obviously many of you know what we have been doing this half term as the majority was completed at home with you. Can I take the opportunity to thank each parent/ carer/ sibling who tried to complete as much work as possible during lockdown.

In Maths, we continued to develop our understanding of positional language, rotation and moved onto fractions. As fractions can be quite an abstract idea for children, we have taken this very slowly to ensure no child is left behind. Most children have been successful with this.

In English, the children have done a thorough study of the book 'Orion and the Dark', producing many pieces of writing around it. I think the lack of handwriting guides at home has sent us back a few steps in presentation but we are working hard to rectify this.

In Topic, we learnt about how communication has changed throughout history ranging from hieroglyphic communication during Egyptian rule to the invention of the World Wide Web under Tim Berner's-Lee.

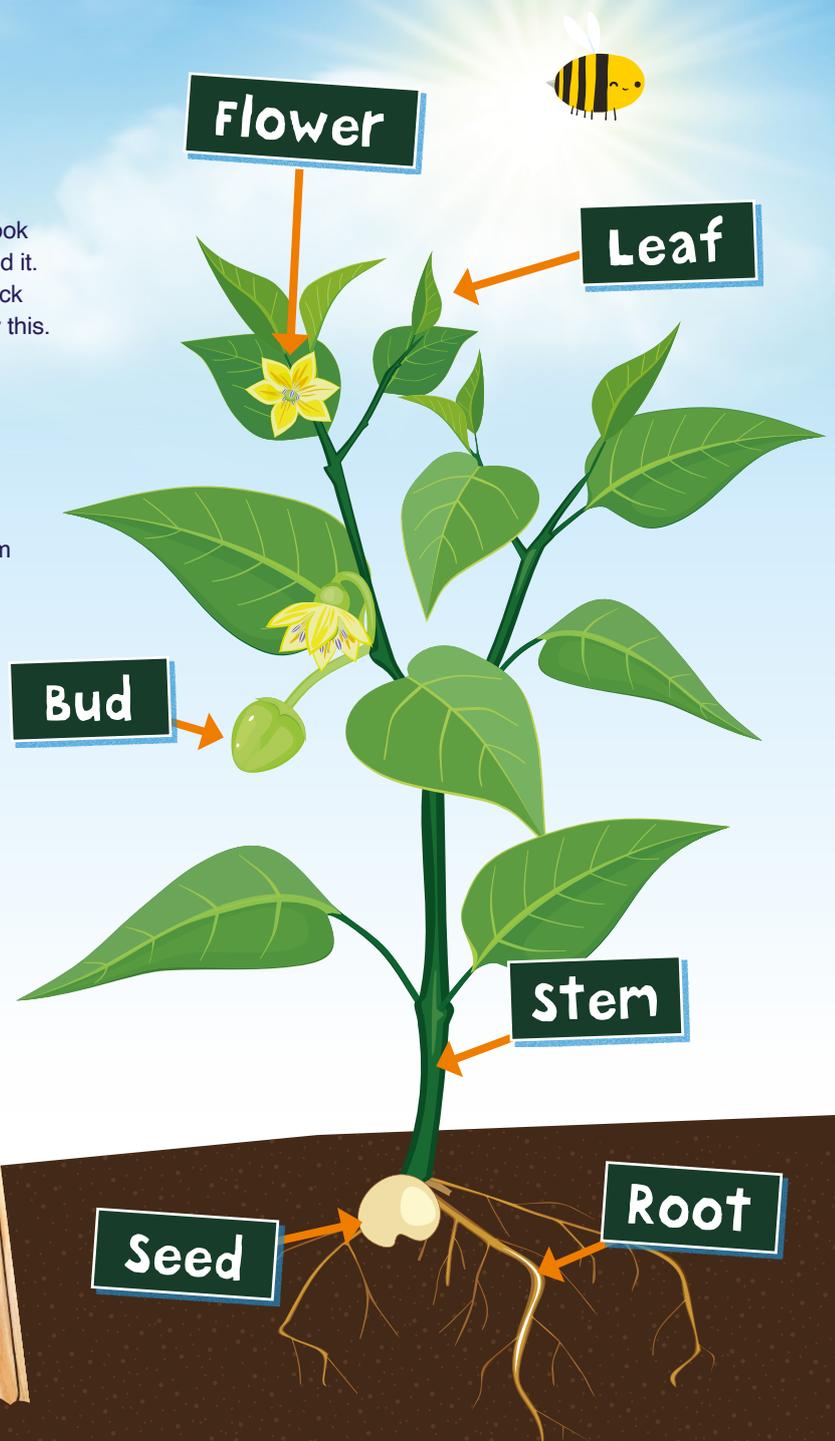
In Science, the children have learnt how plants can grow from seeds or bulbs and the differences between them. They also investigated the perfect conditions to grow a healthy plant.

It has been lovely having our class full again and seeing all the children. Some have settled back in extremely well and made progress already.

Can I remind everyone, home reading should be completed each evening. It is a little trickier swapping books due to Covid safety but the year 2 team are working hard around this to up the frequency of change.

Many thanks for your continued support this half term and we hope you all have a safe and happy holiday.

Miss Cairns, Miss Buckley and Miss Morrison.





# Year 4

**We have certainly had our ups and our downs this year, however I am over the moon to have all the children back in class – busy working hard! I would also like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your continuous patience and for all the support you have provided throughout this unusual time – we could not have done it without you!**

We started the half term reading a brilliant book, 'Mouse Bird Snake Wolf' written by David Almond. It gave us the opportunity to become creative with our writing, and even bringing it to life with lots of natural materials like sticks, stones and bark. After that, we started to read 'Charlotte's Web' by E.B. White. Year 4 have shown so much enthusiasm and excitement for the book, as a result, writing some outstanding pieces of work.

In maths, we have worked a lot on fractions. Although at times the children struggled, they all persevered and showed a greater understanding on equivalent fractions, converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and adding and subtracting two or more fractions. As well as this, year 4 have been working incredibly hard on practicing their arithmetic skills, especially addition and subtraction.

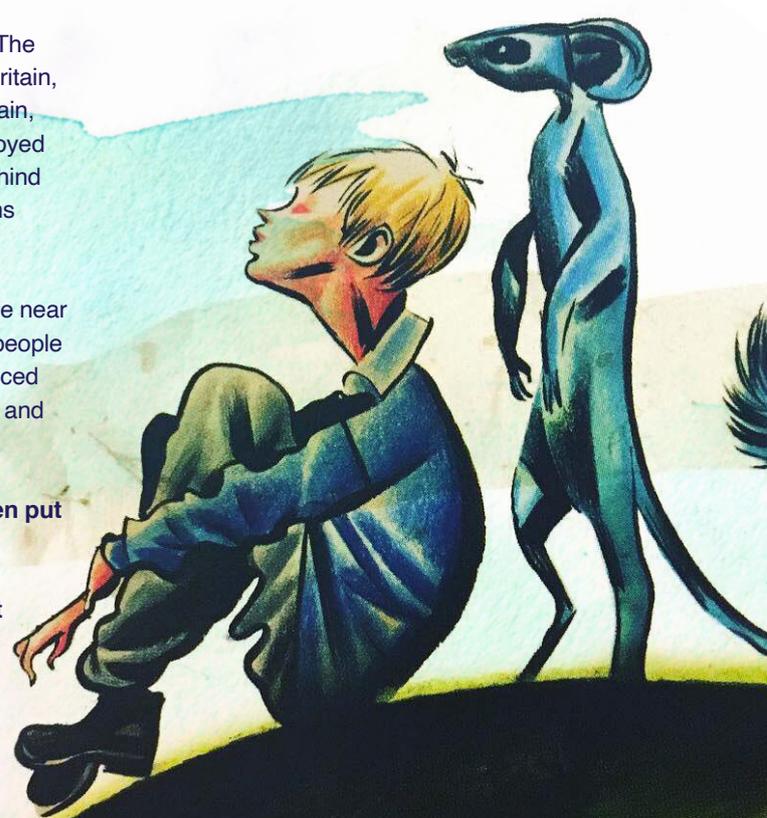
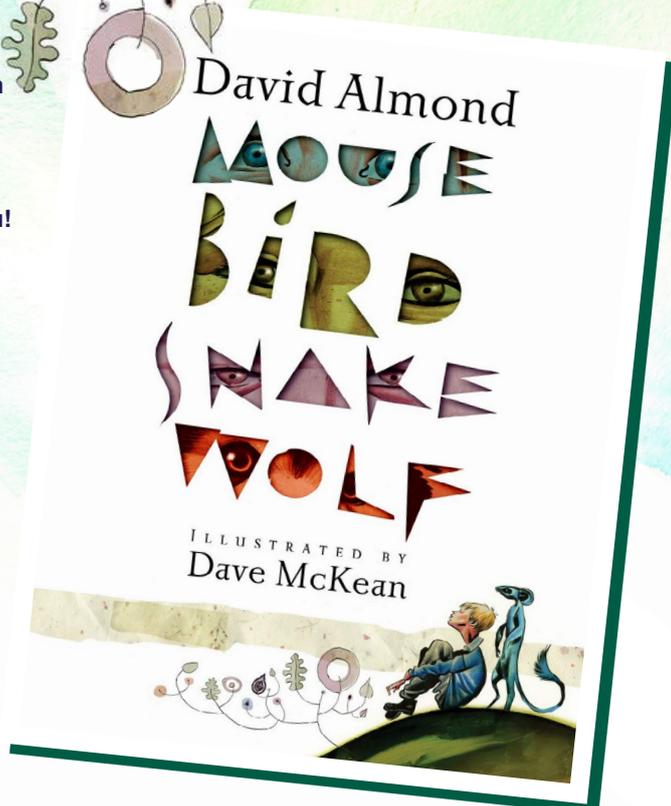
In science, we have carried on from last half term, learning about 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. We have had so much fun, creating our own classification keys for sweets, animals AND plants, as well as getting the opportunity to use a variety of classification keys to help identify an animal or plant. In history this half term, we have been learning about 'The Picts and Scots'. We learnt about when The Picts and Scots invaded Britain, why they invaded Britain, where they came from and where, within Britain, they lived. Our big focus was the ship buried at Sutton Hoo. Year 4 enjoyed imagining themselves as archaeologists, figuring out from items left behind who the person was. This helped us understand the importance of items preserved over years as it tells us so much about the past.

During our safeguarding week, the children learnt all about keeping safe near water. The safety of people in and around water is a priority for young people and they all showed great understanding. From this, the children produced some astonishing posters, which captured the significance to stay safe and how to stay safe.

**I am continuously impressed with the all the hard work the children put into their learning and cannot wait for our final term TOGETHER!**

**Thank you again for all the support you give both in school and at home. Have an AMAZING holiday!**

Miss Dale



# Year 5

**What a wonderful end to the spring term!**

Our English text this half term was 'The Viewer' by Gary Crew and illustrated by Shaun Tan. The Viewer tells the peculiar story of a boy (Tristan) whose obsession with curious artefacts leads him to discover a strange box at a dump site. It proves to be an ancient chest full of optical devices, one of which captures his interest; an intricately mechanical object which carries disks of images; scenes of destruction, violence and the collapse of civilisations throughout time. Tristan is afraid, but also cannot help but look into the machine time and time again as the images shift and change. The book helped us to explore the modern day issue of overpopulation. We used this topic to debate and then write a balanced argument.

In maths, we have been developing our knowledge of multiplication and division, using formal methods. We have also begun looking at looking at and decimals – the children have worked hard at converting improper fractions to mixed number and persevered when they found it tricky.

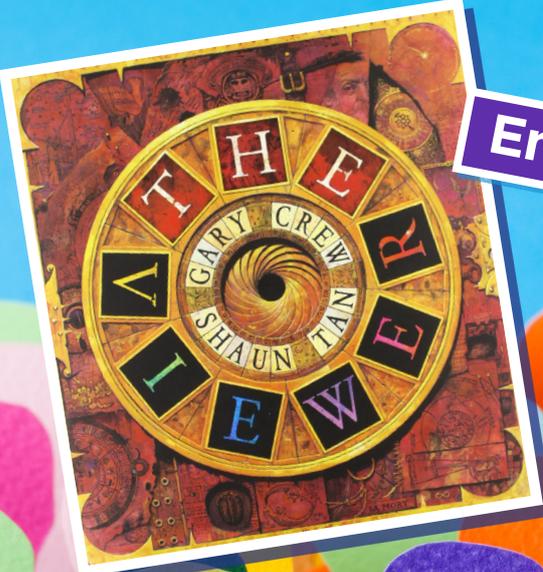
This half term we have been geographers and explored the United Kingdom. The children have gained knowledge in the countries and capital cities of the UK; locating and naming major cities; how hills and mountains are formed; and major rivers. We have been incredibly impressed with how the children have been linking ideas and interpretations across all subjects. In addition to this, during our art lessons we have looked at famous UK landmarks and the Manchester born artist, LS Lowry.

Our science topic this half term has been 'Animals Including Humans'. We have built on the knowledge the children gained in Year 4, and have a deeper understanding of how our bodies develop and change over time.

In other areas of the curriculum, the children have been expanding their computer skills by exploring spreadsheets and databases.

We are all looking forward to the start of the summer term. Enjoy your holiday Year 5.

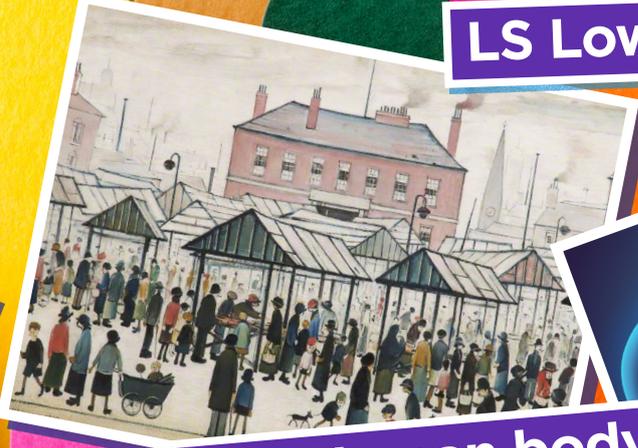
Miss Webster and Miss Myatt



English



Geography



LS Lowry



Maths



The Human body

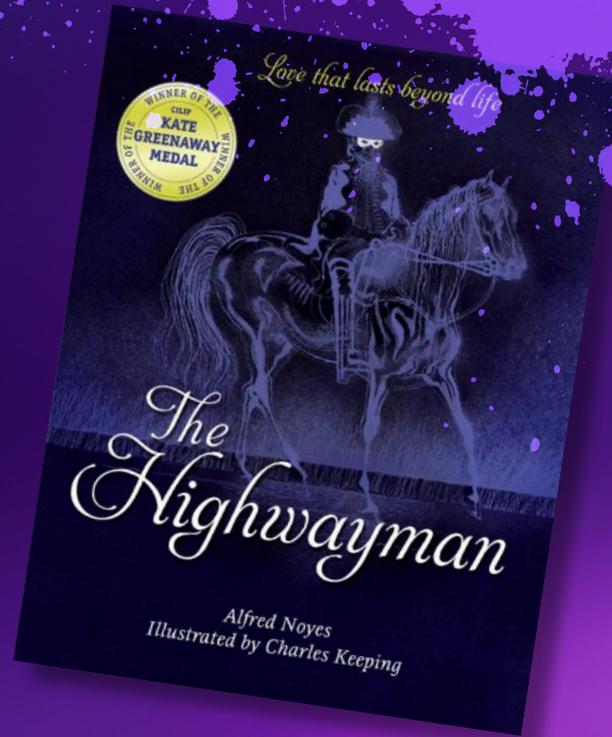
# YEAR 6

Welcome back and I would like to take this opportunity to praise the children for engaging so well with their home learning and keeping things ticking over last half term! It has been lovely to see all of their smiling faces again and get back to the hard work at such a crucial time.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our student teacher Miss Sultan who has joined us this half term and will continue to be with us through to June. She will be teaching alongside Miss Hardy and myself and has really enjoyed getting to know the children this half term.

In English this half term, the children have continued to study *The Highwayman* - a historical poem. They have thoroughly enjoyed reading and studying the gruesome ghost story and it has been lovely to even see some of the children even bring in their own copy of the book too! We have had lots of fun acting out as the characters to get us to begin to think about their side of the story. Over the last few weeks, we have been writing the poem as a story and the children have out done themselves using some incredible vocabulary and descriptions to really bring it to life! I have been blown away completely!

Our topic about Crime and Punishment through history has paired perfectly with our English book and the children have thoroughly enjoyed it too! We have learnt about the different types of crimes that were common since the Roman period up to modern day Britain including treason and being accused of witchcraft. They have also enjoyed learning about the humiliating and gruesome forms of punishment such as the ducking stool and linked crucifixion with their understanding from RE. It has been thoroughly interesting to say the least!



I am sure many of you will remember how our science topic started at home - with a very realistic video of a heart dissection! This has formed the great foundations of knowledge that the children have built upon during this half term. They have moved on to understand the different parts of the heart and how it pumps blood; as well as learning about the other parts of the circulatory system and how exercise and other factors impact our health. This has been supplemented by our guided reading text too where we heard stories from people who quit smoking and the positive impact it had on their life!

Our other subjects have covered Flag football in PE - which is a form of American football/ tag rugby! In music we have been learning to play *You've got a friend*; and the children have also produced some amazing portraits with Miss Hardy of Frieda Kahlo!

It has been great to have them back and some of many of them have returned with a mature attitude, which I hope will continue to grow as they begin to embrace their final term at Aspinal soon and look forward to their move to high school!

By now, you should have received a letter or email to provide you with details of your child's high school place. It is important that you respond in order to accept the place. If you have any worries or concerns please do not hesitate to drop me a message on class dojo so that we can help.

**I hope that you have a restful and enjoyable Easter holidays! I look forward to welcoming the children back for their final and most enjoyable term at Aspinal in Year 6!**

**Miss Hughes and Mrs Robinson**





# Community MATTERS

## RSE Parent Consultation 2021

We are in the process of revising our Sex and Relationships Education in line with new government guidance from 2020, putting in place the building blocks that children need for positive and safe relationships.

This will start with understanding our relationships with family and friends, how to treat each other with kindness, and recognising the difference between online and offline friendships. As with most primary schools, we choose to teach about sex education too, alongside our existing science curriculum which contains information about body changes and puberty.

Our SRE lessons are designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships, and to thrive in modern Britain. It is important to us that you, as parents, agree with our policy and are happy with our scheme of work. We will be posting a draft overview of our lessons for each year group in the first week back after Easter for you to look at. The revised content is different to the overview that we shared last year.

There will also be a brief survey for you to complete so that we can be sure of your approval or concerns.

**We will be holding a SRE workshop for parents on Tuesday 27th April.**

Parents of pupils in KS1 can book in to attend from 9.15 – 10.00.

Parents of pupils in KS2 can book in to attend from 10.30 – 11.15.

We can do our best to respond to any questions from the survey and any requests to view the resources that we use.

In the meantime you can check out the latest government guidance with options for translations by following the link below.

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-health-education-guides-for-schools?utm\\_source=4e32b008-7c1e-40eb-b0ee-d3d05e10d9a7&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-health-education-guides-for-schools?utm_source=4e32b008-7c1e-40eb-b0ee-d3d05e10d9a7&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

