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Letter 18

20th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

AQA Activate Genes Part 1

I am writing to inform you that students in Year 7 will be studying the AQA Activate Genes Part 1 topic in Science during their first term. Some classes will start this topic immediately after their introductory skills lessons and some will not move on to it until after October half term.

For some students this topic can make them feel particularly uncomfortable, especially if they have not covered a great deal of sex education at primary school. Therefore, I want to reassure you that this topic is taught professionally and sensitively. For other students it can often be quite intriguing and initiate conversations at home or with their peers. As with all topics, students are encouraged to ask questions in lessons, whether that be openly or anonymously; however, teachers will only answer questions that are age-appropriate and of a scientific, non-sexualised nature.

Here is a brief overview of the content studied during this topic:

- Lesson 1 - Adolescence/Puberty
- Lesson 2 - Reproductive Systems (labelling and understanding the function of each part of the reproductive organs)
- Lesson 3 - Fertilisation and Implantation
- Lesson 4 - Development of a Foetus
- Lesson 5 - The menstrual cycle

Should you wish to know more, or foresee any concerns that may arise for your child, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Lianne May
KS3 Science Coordinator