

Relationships and Sex Education Policy



Our Aims are

- To help pupils develop feelings of respect, confidence and empathy
- To create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- To provide pupils with the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- To provide a framework in which sensitive conversations can take place
- To provide pupils with the knowledge they will need to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships, now and in later life
- To develop responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to their school, their community and the wider world
- To promote equality and diversity for every pupil.

Process

The Relationships and Sex Education Policy forms part of the PSHE and Citizenship Policy and has strong links with the whole school ethos and values in every aspect of school life.

This policy has been developed in accordance with the guidance from the DfE stating that relationships education will become compulsory in primary schools from September 2020.

In developing this policy, we have been mindful of the changes in society with regard to safeguarding, social media websites, changing families and embracing diversity.

Links with other policies

The RSE Policy has strong links with Science which addresses life cycles, human biology and physical changes and with RE which teaches about family values, moral issues and promotes mutual respect.

The discrete PHSE provision encourages positive relationships within the school community and beyond. Through this and the implicit values of the school, the Behavior Policy and the Equal Opportunities Policy, an ethos is created in which pupil's self-esteem can grow – so developing the confidence to make informed life choices.

Definition: What is sex and relationship education?

The teaching of RSE is about encouraging the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

Relationships education involves a combination of sharing information whilst exploring issues and values.

Curriculum - Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within our PHSE (Personal, Social, Health and Emotional Education) through a mixture of cross-curricular and stand-alone lessons. RSE has strong links with our science curriculum when thinking about the changes that bodies go through into adolescence and puberty. Other aspects such as tolerance and diversity are taught through our RE curriculum.

We use a literacy rich approach to the teaching of RSE/PHSE with quality texts being at the heart of our teaching. Talking Points allows our children to use books as a basis for learning and quality discussions. In order to provide our children with a full and balanced education we also deliver specific RSE lessons using CWP (Christopher Winter Project) resources.

We understand the importance of teaching our children about healthy and positive relationships. Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and close positive relationships
- Friendships
- Managing hurtful behaviours
- Keeping safe in relationships
- Respecting yourself and others
- Consent and rights and responsibilities (linking to appropriate behaviour)

Through this we aim to give our children the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds. Whilst it is our aim to teach RSE across year groups we recognise that this needs to be cohort sensitive and understand that some aspects of PHSE/RSE may need to be repeated or moved into other year groups.

We recognise that relationships education needs to be taught in an inclusive way, being mindful of all types of families (single parent, LGBT families, adoptive parents, among others). As a school we have a strong emphasis on pastoral support, providing 'The Cloud' with a dedicated Pastoral Lead who offers a variety of support across the school.

Roles and Responsibilities

The PHSE co-ordinator is responsible for ensuring that the RSE curriculum is implemented across school.

The staff are responsible for delivering RSE in a sensitive way, modelling positive attitudes towards RSE, monitoring progress and responding to the needs of individuals.

The governing body and headteacher are consulted when developing the policy and in approving the policy.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to fully engage in RSE and when discussing issues relating to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity. We aim to provide an inclusive and open environment to allow all our pupils, including those with SEND, to be able to fully engage in learning.

Parents right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE. Scientific aspects of body parts and reproduction will be taught through the science curriculum.

Prior to the teaching of sex education parents are offered a chance to view materials. Any requests to withdraw should be put in writing to the headteacher, following which a discussion will then take place.

Training

Staff are provided with training about RSE through staff meetings and CPD. Staff are encouraged to speak to the RSE coordinator if they need any support with aspects of teaching RSE.

External visitors, such as DARE, the school nurse and other health professionals are invited into support the staff with the teaching of RSE.

Monitoring arrangements and policy review

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the PHSE coordinator through learning walks, pupil interviews and questionnaires, Talking Points questions and staff feedback.

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by staff as part of continuing assessment in the classroom. This policy will be reviewed by the PHSE coordinator on an annual basis. At every review the policy will be reviewed by the headteacher and the governing body.