



Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) Policy 2024

Reviewed by J. Berry (PSHE Lead) September 2024
Next Review date: September 2026

To be reviewed: September 2025

Introduction

The purpose of the policy is to outline how, through our Relationship and Sex education (RSE) provision, we aim to support our pupils' social, moral, cultural and emotional development. Our focus is on developing our pupils' knowledge about health, relationships, emotional and mental well-being to support them to make the best possible decisions as they grow and change. We place the emphasis upon relationships, supporting pupils' understanding and skill in developing positive and healthy relationships.

Our school's policy on relationship and sex education (RSE) is based on the requirements set out in the 2019 DFE document: Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams and teachers.

Aims

We teach children about:

- Respectful relationships and respecting others even if they are different from ourselves;
- Healthy relationships including online safety and where to seek help;
- All families are equal;
- Being safe-respecting and being in control of their own bodies;
- Scientific anatomical names for parts of the body;
- How bodies change; physical development and puberty as they approach adulthood.

Context

We want our pupils to develop healthy positive behaviours that will support them through life. Our RSE policy encompasses our school's core values and British Values are also at the forefront. We are committed to safeguarding all children and our provision of RSE supports this commitment.

We provide children with the opportunity to learn about healthy relationships, respect for themselves and where to seek help if needed. We aim to equip children with the knowledge and skills to make safe positive decisions throughout life.

All pupils will be offered the same sex and relationship education curriculum entitlement tailored to their individual need and stage of emotional development. It is our aim to offer all pupils the opportunity to develop their potential within an atmosphere which values each individual as unique and worthy of respect. We use an inclusive, whole school approach to ensure RSE can be accessed in an age-appropriate way throughout a child's school career. Where a teacher feels that it would promote confidence and discussion to work in a single sex group for a short amount of time, the teacher has the flexibility to do this in addition to the whole class sessions.

Organisation

We teach RSE through our PSHE curriculum and where appropriate through our science curriculum. In PSHE we use the Cambridgeshire Personal Development programme to build our curriculum. We cover;

- Families, how they are all different and all are to be valued;

- Positive relationships and friendships;
- Respecting ourselves and others-exploring how our behaviour can impact on others;
- Being safe, online and in the outside world;
- Appropriate relationships, how bodies belong to the individual and to how identify appropriate physical contact and where to go if they feel unsafe;
- How males and females are different and scientifically correct names for body parts;
- How bodies grow and change and what happens to bodies during puberty.

More detail is given in our PSHE Curriculum Provision Map.

We aim to support children's emotional development and the children are encouraged to ask questions and are taught where to go if help is needed. Through our Science Curriculum; teachers inform children about males and females and how a baby is born. In Key Stage 1, we teach children that animals, including humans, produce offspring, which grow into adults, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body. In Key Stage 2, we teach about life processes including reproduction and the main stages of the human life cycle, in greater depth.

Confidentiality

All RSE lessons are taught in a sensitive manner respecting the needs of all pupils. Our school will develop ground rules for lessons promoting a positive supportive learning environment. RSE lessons may lead to a disclosure from a pupil if this is the case staff are to follow our safeguarding/child protection policy informing the schools safeguarding lead if needed.

Parents/Carers

The school recognises that parents are their child's first educator and that the primary role in children's Relationships and Sex Education lies with parents and carers. We therefore wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school, through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation. To promote this objective, we will:

- inform parents about the school's Relationship and Sex Education policy and practise – through letters and on our website;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the Relationship and Sex Education of their child;
- discuss any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about the arrangements for Relationship and Sex Education in the school;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy, and making modifications to it as necessary;
- inform parents about the scheme of work used with details of what will be covered in each year group.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the Sex Education programme that we teach in our school, except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from Sex Education

lessons, they should discuss this with the Head Teacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in.

The role of the PSHE lead/Head teacher

The PSHE lead monitors and reports on the effectiveness of the policy. It is the PSHE lead's responsibility to ensure parents/carers and staff members are familiar with the policy. It is also their responsibility to ensure it is implemented effectively and that training is given where needed and to make staff aware of how to deal sensitively with issues should they arise.

Monitoring and Review

Governors are responsible for monitoring the RSE policy and give due consideration to any comments/queries raised by parents/carers. The Head Teacher is to keep a written record of any comments.