



Relationship and Sex Education Policy

Including EYFS

1. Introduction

Our policy reflects the DfE guidance, in particular 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' (DfE, 2019).

This policy should be read in conjunction with the policies listed below:

- PSHCE
- Curriculum

The policy is based on the principle that young people are entitled to responsible and relevant sex & relationship education in preparation for adulthood.

This policy covers our school's approach to RSE (Relationships and Sex Education); a statutory component of the PSHE and Citizenship Curriculum from September 2020. This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, governors and parents.

We define “relationships and sex education” as learning about the many strands of relationship and growing up. This includes family relationship, friendships and relationships with peers and adults, healthy and unhealthy relationships, the characteristics of positive relationships, relationships online and the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up.

Key Aspects that our teaching will focus on will include:

EYFS

- Healthy and respectful relationships
- Boundaries and consent
- Stereotyping, prejudice and equality
- Body confidence and self-esteem

We believe relationships and sex education is important for our pupils and our school because every pupil should be provided with open, honest, accurate and age-appropriate lessons about relationships. Through our school's ethos and values, we aim to develop pupil's knowledge, skills, opinions, strategies and confidence – enabling them to cope with life and live safely and happily in the modern world.

We highly value the partnership between school and home and actively promote open and informative two-way communication. We aim to provide parents and carers with accurate information about what their child is learning in school and to provide the best learning environment and opportunities for our pupils.

Our Relationships Education curriculum is inclusive and meets the needs of all pupils, including those with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). We also aim to promote gender equality and represent the LGBT+ community through our Relationships curriculum.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

The RSE programme will be led by the Headteacher. It will be taught by class teachers and supported by the SLT.

3. Curriculum Design

Our RSE programme is an integral part of our whole school PSHE education provision and supports the objectives set out by the PSHE Association which meet the statutory requirements for all Key Stages. Learning in Relationships Education lessons will link to RE, PSHE, English, Humanities and Science. Our lessons will be differentiated where appropriate, ensuring all pupils are able to participate fully. Pupils will be given the opportunity to reflect on and evaluate their learning – assessment opportunities are built into every lesson.. Lessons will be delivered through a variety of teaching methods and interactive activities such as discussion, role play, drama and worksheets.

4. EYFS and Communication Needs

With the range of communication needs that our population of pupils experience, our RSE curriculum will include a strong focus on early vocabulary teaching (see communication and language overview) such as teaching body parts and labels.

This will be done in conjunction with parents/ carers and SLT/ Therapy team.

We aim to support our Early Years children to understand a range of relationships (family, friends, awareness of strangers) and this is focused on in a variety of our key themes, including our My Family theme where we use age appropriate texts to introduce awareness of different types of family structure, alongside immediate and extended families.

We utilize the NSPCC early years PANTS resources and programme to supplement this and work closely with our therapy team to build opportunities for children to expand their communication skills in all areas of their lives.

We will work through the following themes in a cross curricular way across our EYFS:

- Understanding a variety of relationships (All about Me theme and My Family theme)
- Developing an understanding of their rights and responsibilities within a range of relationships;
- Developing communication skills (including awareness of feelings/ consent and non consent), recognising potential risks, assertiveness, seeking help, informed decision making, self-respect and empathy for others, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and managing conflict.

- Developing an awareness of the process of growing up and the changes they and others will experience.

5. Safe and Effective Practice

Teachers will establish a safe learning environment by agreeing ground rules with the class before each lesson starts. “Difficult” questions from pupils will be dealt with in class if appropriate or privately with the pupil and a member of the SLT. Any safeguarding issues will be immediately brought to the attention of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or Deputy. Distancing techniques will be employed using fictional characters and scenarios rather than discussing their own lives and experiences.

6. Consultation

We will consult with parents/carers on a yearly basis regarding our RSHE teaching/curriculum. This will be by email and through parent review meetings at the beginning of each school year.

7. Parents right to withdraw

Parents and carers have the legal right to withdraw their child from all or part of the non-statutory components of RSE (sex education), with the exception of the objectives included in National Curriculum science. However, as a lower Primary School we will only be teaching the statutory components (Relationship education).

Therefore parents/ carers are not permitted to withdraw their child from this part of our curriculum. If parents/ carers have any concerns relating to any aspect of this area of our teaching. They are encouraged to talk to the class teacher first. Further concerns must be put in writing and addressed to the Headteacher.

