



# **RSE Policy**

September 2020

## Relationships and Sex Education Policy

### **Context/Introduction**

- "All schools must have a written policy on sex education which they must make available to parents for free.

Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfEE 0116/2000)

- "Children need high quality sex and relationships education so they can make wise and informed choices."

The Importance of Teaching, Government White Paper 2010)

### **What is Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)?**

The DfES guidance (0116/2000) states:

"..it is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity - this would be inappropriate teaching."

To embrace the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life, pupils need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy. Pupils can also put this knowledge into practice as they develop the capacity to make sound decisions when facing risks, challenges and complex contexts. These subjects can support young people to develop resilience, to know how and when to ask for help, and to know where to access support. High quality, evidence-based and age-appropriate teaching of these subjects can help prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

### **Relationships and Sex Education**

All primary schools should have a sex and relationship programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the children.

In the early primary school years, education about relationships needs to focus on friendship, what family means, bullying, who to go to for support and the building of self-esteem.

It should ensure that both boys and girls know about puberty and how a baby is born - as set out in the KS1 and KS2 National Science Curriculum. All children including those who develop earlier than the average need to know about puberty before they experience the onset of physical changes.

### **Aims and Objectives for Relationships and Sex Education**

- Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) aims to inform children and young people about relationships, emotions, sex and sexual health. It enables them to develop personal and social skills and provides them with the tools they need to stay safe.
- RSE starts at home and is received from parents/carers, siblings, friends, television, films, magazines, the internet and school. It doesn't just happen when we are young: all through our lives we continue to learn about sex and relationships.

## **Parents' right to withdraw a child from RSE**

From September 2020 the government made the teaching of Relationships Education a statutory duty for all schools across England. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at primary as we believe the contents of these subjects - such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) - are important for all children to be taught.

Section 405 of the Education Act 1996 enables parents to withdraw their children from sex education other than sex education that is in the National Curriculum. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education provided at school except for those parts included in the Science National Curriculum. Parents should contact Mr White to discuss their desire to remove children from RSE.

School will strive to meet with parents who are unsure about their child's participation. This will often reassure parents about the content and these children may then take part. Children who do not take part in these sessions will have an alternative provision.

## **The organisation of Relationships and Sex Education**

Miss Beety and Mrs Baggaley as the PSHE co-ordinators are the teachers with responsibility for leading and coordinating relationships and sex education.

Relationships and sex education may be delivered through Science, RE, PSHE, and English activities. Relationships and sex education is taught by classroom teachers and may be supported by teaching assistants. There may be occasions when the School Nurse or teachers from the RSE Service are involved in delivering RSE.

Relationships education will be taught as part of our PSHE curriculum throughout the year. Please refer to our PSHE policy for further details of our curriculum.

The specific Christopher Winter Project sessions as outlined below will be taught during the summer term of each academic year and parents will be made aware when it will be delivered.

A range of teaching methods which involve children's full participation are used to teach relationship and sex education. These include use of stories, video, discussion, looking at case studies, drama and role play.

Relationships and sex education is delivered in mixed gender groups as good practise suggests that males and females understand the changes that the opposite sexes bodies go through as well as their own. Resources to teach relationship and sex education include fiction, reference books, leaflets and extracts from videos. Christopher Winter Project resources are contained within Teaching SRE with Confidence in Primary Schools.

## **The Christopher Winter Project - Teaching RSE with Confidence in Primary Schools**

School has adopted the Christopher Winter Project teaching resource as its scheme of work for RSE. There are 3 sessions for each year group from Reception to Year 5. There are 4 sessions for Year 6 children. The content of each session is detailed below.

## Reception Our Lives

Lesson 1: **Our Day**  
Lesson 2: **Keeping Ourselves Clean**  
Lesson 3: **Families**

## Year 1 Growing and Caring For Ourselves

Lesson 1: **Keeping Clean**  
Lesson 2: **Growing and Changing**  
Lesson 3: **Families and Care**

## Year 2 Differences

Lesson 1: **Differences: Boys and Girls**  
Lesson 2: **Differences: Male and Female**  
Lesson 3: **Naming the Body Parts**

## Year 3 Valuing Difference and Keeping Safe

Lesson 1: **Differences: Male and Female**  
Lesson 2: **Personal Space**  
Lesson 3: **Family Differences**

## Year 4 Growing Up

Lesson 1: **Growing and Changing**  
Lesson 2: **What is Puberty?**  
Lesson 3: **Puberty Changes and Reproduction**

## Year 5 Puberty

Lesson 1: **Talking about Puberty**  
Lesson 2: **Male and Female Changes**  
Lesson 3: **Puberty and Hygiene**

## Year 6 Puberty, Relationships and Reproduction

Lesson 1: **Puberty and Reproduction**  
Lesson 2: **Understanding Relationships**  
Lesson 3: **Conception and Pregnancy**  
Lesson 4: **Communication in Relationships**

### **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT)**

In teaching Relationships Education and RSE, schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect. Schools must ensure that they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010, under which sexual orientation and gender reassignment are amongst the protected characteristics. We will ensure that all of our teaching is sensitive and age appropriate in approach and content. It is the expectation that all pupils will have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum.

### **Specific Issues**

- **Child Protection / Confidentiality**

Teachers need to be aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue.

The staff member will inform the Head Teacher / Designated Safeguarding Leader in line with the school Safeguarding Policy.

A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.

- **Dealing with difficult questions**

Ground rules are essential to provide an agreed structure to answering sensitive or difficult questions. This framework facilitates the use of an anonymous question box as a distancing technique.

Teachers will endeavour to answer questions as honestly as possible and may consult with other teachers where they feel necessary but if faced with a question they do not feel comfortable answering within the classroom, provision would be made to meet the individual child's needs.

- **Children with special needs**

Teaching and resources will be differentiated as appropriate to address the needs of all children in order for them to have full access to the content of sex and relationship education.

### **Monitoring and Review**

Monitoring is the responsibility of the PSHE coordinators and teachers with responsibility for sex and relationship education.

The school will assess the effectiveness of the aims, content and methods in promoting students' learning by lesson observation, work sampling and feedback from teachers and children.

The effectiveness of the RSE programme will be evaluated by assessing children's learning and implementing change if required.

The policy will be reviewed and updated every two years.