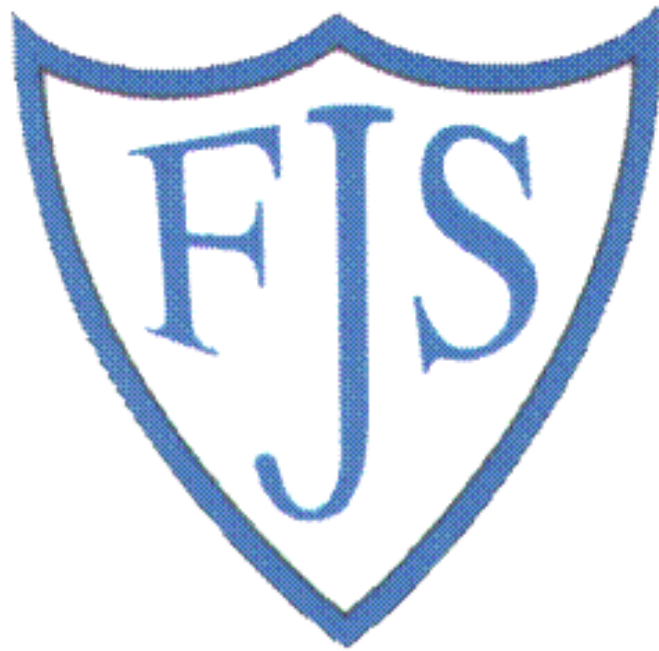


Forefield Junior School



RSHE Policy

April 2026
Review 2027

Mission Statement

*Forefield Junior School is a P.R.O.U.D. school built on **Passion and Respect**, where **Opportunities** can be seized by **Unique and Determined** learners.*

We are passionate about learning in an environment where everyone is empowered to be themselves and to flourish. We respect and value each and every individual and cherish their unique qualities to create a sense of belonging. We are determined to support personal, social and emotional development by encouraging self-belief and providing opportunities for everyone to express themselves and grow in confidence.

By celebrating their diverse contribution to the life of the school and the wider community, each person will be encouraged to build on their foundations, to instil a belief in everyone that they have limitless potential and are always capable of achieving their best - throughout their lives. As a family we share each other's successes and take pride in them.

We will consistently promote the highest of standards in every aspect of school life, provide a vibrant, stimulating curriculum in a safe and happy learning environment, to foster excellent attitudes and behaviour. The inspirational opportunities we provide will fuel a passion for learning and a sense of pride in all we do.

This is what makes us PROUD:

Passion, Respect, Opportunity, Unique, Determined.

Contents

Statement of intent

1. Legal framework
2. RSHE and Safeguarding
3. Roles and responsibilities
4. Organisation of the curriculum
5. Consultation
6. Relationships education overview
7. Relationships education per year group
8. Health education overview
9. Health education per year group
10. Sex education
11. Online Safety
12. Delivery of the curriculum
13. Working with external experts
14. Equality and accessibility
15. Curriculum links
16. Withdrawing from the subjects
17. Behaviour
18. Staff training
19. Confidentiality
20. Monitoring quality
21. Monitoring and review

Statement of intent

At Forefield Junior School, we understand that pupils must be provided with an education that prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. A key part of this relates to relationships education, which must be delivered to every primary-aged pupil. Primary schools also have the option to decide whether pupils are taught sex education. State-funded primary schools are also required to teach health education.

Relationships education focuses on giving pupils the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships, and to build their self-efficacy. Health education focuses on equipping pupils with the knowledge they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing.

We understand our responsibility to deliver a high-quality, age-appropriate and evidence based relationships, sex and health curriculum for all our pupils. This policy sets out the framework for our relationships, sex and health curriculum, providing clarity on how it is informed, organised and delivered.

This policy reflects updated statutory guidance for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) to be implemented from September 2026. The school recognises the importance of delivering age-appropriate, evidence-based RSHE that supports pupils' safety, wellbeing and understanding of healthy relationships, including in online contexts.

This school is a Key Stage Two setting. The RSHE curriculum is therefore designed specifically for pupils aged 7-11 and reflects their stage of development. Where prior learning from Key Stage One is referenced, this is built upon rather than re-taught.

1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Section 80A of the Education Act 2002
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE (2019) 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education'
- DfE (2013) 'Science programmes of study: key stages 1 and 2'

- DfE (2020) 'Teaching about relationships, sex and health'
- DfE statutory guidance on Relationships, Sex and Health Education applicable from September 2026.
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (latest version)
- Online Safety Act (2023)

1.2. This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- SEND Policy
- Equality Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Online-safety Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy

2. RSHE and Safeguarding

RSHE is a key part of the school's safeguarding provision. Through the curriculum, pupils are taught to:

- Recognise risks, harmful situations, and unsafe relationships.
- Understand personal boundaries and consent.
- Seek help and report concerns.

All RSHE teaching is aligned with the school's safeguarding and child protection policy and reflects current safeguarding priorities.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1. The Local Governing Board is responsible for:

- Ensuring all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes.
- Ensuring the curriculum is well led, effectively managed and well planned.
- Evaluating the quality of provision through regular and effective self-evaluation.
- Ensuring teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND.

- Providing clear information for parents on subject content and their rights to request that their children are withdrawn.
- Ensuring that RSHE content is age-appropriate and in line with current statutory safeguarding guidance, particularly in relation to sensitive or contested topics.
- Ensuring full transparency with parents, including access to teaching materials upon request.

3.2. The Headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring staff receive appropriate training and support to deliver the curriculum effectively.
- Ensuring that parents are fully informed of this policy.
- Managing and responding to requests from parents to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education.
- Discussing requests for withdrawal with parents.
- Organising alternative education for pupils, where necessary, that is appropriate and purposeful.
- Reporting to the governing board on the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing this policy on an annual basis (alongside the PSHE/RSHE lead).
- Ensuring that RSHE content is age-appropriate and in line with current statutory safeguarding guidance, particularly in relation to sensitive or contested topics.
- Ensuring full transparency with parents, including access to teaching materials upon request.

3.3. The PSHE subject leader is responsible for:

- Overseeing the effective delivery and sequencing of the curriculum.
- Ensuring the subjects are age-appropriate and high-quality.
- Ensuring teachers are provided with adequate resources to support teaching of the RSHE curriculum.
- Ensuring the school meets its statutory requirements in relation to the RSHE curriculum.
- Ensuring the RSHE curriculum is inclusive and accessible for all pupils.
- Working with other subject leaders to ensure the relationships, sex and health curriculum complements, but does not duplicate, the content covered in the national curriculum.

- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the subjects and providing reports to the Headteacher.

3.4. All teaching staff are responsible for:

- Delivering a high-quality and age-appropriate relationships, sex and health curriculum in line with statutory requirements.
- Using a variety of teaching methods and resources to provide an engaging curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils.
- Ensuring they do not express personal views or beliefs when delivering the programme.
- Modelling positive attitudes to relationships, sex and health education.
- Responding to any safeguarding concerns in line with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
- Ensuring that planning, monitoring and assessment for the subject are carried out in line with school policy.
- Liaising with the SENDCO to identify and respond to individual needs of pupils with SEND.
- Working with the PSHE/RSHE lead to evaluate the quality of provision.

3.5. The SENDCO is responsible for:

- Advising teaching staff how best to identify and support pupils' individual needs.
- Advising staff on the use of TAs in order to meet pupils' individual needs.

3.6 The Role of Parents and Carers:

Parents and carers are the primary educators of their children and play an important role in supporting RSHE. The school is committed to working in partnership with parents and carers to ensure pupils receive consistent messages about relationships, health, wellbeing and personal safety.

Parents and carers have the right to:

- Be informed about the school's RSHE curriculum.
- Access information about the resources used to support teaching and learning.
- Be consulted on the development and review of the RSHE policy.

- Request withdrawal from the non-statutory sex education elements of the curriculum, in accordance with statutory guidance.

Parents and carers are encouraged to:

- Support and reinforce learning at home where appropriate.
- Discuss RSHE topics with their child in a way that reflects their family values and beliefs.
- Contact the school if they have any questions or concerns regarding the RSHE curriculum.

4. Organisation of the curriculum

4.1. Every primary school is required to deliver statutory relationships education and health education.

4.2. The delivery of the relationships education and of health education coincide with one another and will be delivered as part of the school's PSHE curriculum.

4.3. The relationships and health curriculum has been organised in line with the statutory requirements outlined in the DfE (2019) 'Relationships, Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' guidance.

4.4. The relationships and health curriculum considers the views of teachers, pupils and parents. We are dedicated to ensuring our curriculum meets the needs of the whole-school community.

4.5. The relationships and health curriculum is informed by issues in the school and wider community to ensure it is tailored to pupils' needs.

4.6. We consult with parents, pupils and staff in the following ways:

- Questionnaires
- Newsletters and letters
- School website
- Training sessions and workshops

- Meetings
- ‘Share Our Learning’ opportunities such as parents’ evening
- Pupil voice is gathered through discussions, surveys, and school council input to ensure the curriculum remains relevant, appropriate, and responsive to pupils’ needs.

4.7. Parents and carers are encouraged to contact the school if they have any questions, concerns or feedback regarding the RSHE curriculum. The school is committed to working in partnership with parents and carers and will provide opportunities for consultation when the policy is reviewed. Any parent, teacher or pupil wishing to provide feedback about the curriculum can do so at any time during the academic year by:

- Organising a meeting with a member of school staff
- Emailing the school office

4.8. The school has organised a curriculum that is age-appropriate for pupils within each year group, based on the views of teachers, parents and pupils.

4.9. In the organisation and delivery of the curriculum, due regard will be given to the religious backgrounds of all pupils. Topics will be taught factually and objectively, using accurate scientific terminology, in a manner that is age-appropriate, inclusive, and impartial.

4.10. The school ensures that all RSHE content is developmentally appropriate, and that pupils are not taught content that is not suitable for their age group, in line with statutory guidance. Particular care is taken when addressing sensitive topics.

5. Consultation

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, staff and the Local Governing Board.

5.1. The school understands the important role parents play in enhancing their children’s understanding of relationships, sex and health.

5.2. The school works closely with parents by establishing open communication – all parents are consulted in the development and delivery of the RSHE curriculum, as outlined in section 4 of this policy.

5.3. Parents are provided with clear and accessible information including:

- Full curriculum overview.
- Examples of teaching materials (on request or through 1decision's 'Parent Zone').
- Clear explanation of statutory versus non-statutory content.
- Clear explanation of withdrawal rights.

5.4. This policy will be published on the school website and made available to parents and carers upon request.

5.5. The school aims to build positive relationships with parents by inviting them into school to discuss what will be taught, address any concerns, and help parents in managing conversations with their children on the issues covered by the curriculum.

5.6. Parents are consulted in the review of the curriculum and this policy and are encouraged to provide their views at any time.

5.7. The school will pro-actively inform parents before teaching sensitive units, particularly those relating to puberty and sex education.

6. Relationships education overview

In Key Stage Two, teaching places increased emphasis on:

- Managing more complex friendships
- Recognising peer influence and pressure
- Developing independence and resilience
- Preparing for transition to secondary school

Families and people who care for me

6.1. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That families are important for them growing up because they can give love, security and stability.
- The characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives.
- That others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care.
- That stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up.
- That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong.
- How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.

Caring friendships

6.2. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.
- The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences, and support with problems and difficulties.
- That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded.
- That most friendships have ups and downs, but that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right.
- How to recognise who to trust and who not to trust.
- How to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable.
- How to manage conflict.

- How to manage different situations and how to seek help from others if needed.

Respectful relationships

6.3. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), make different choices, or have different preferences or beliefs.
- Which practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.
- The conventions of courtesy and manners.
- The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness.
- That in school and wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority.
- About the different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying to an adult, and how to seek help.
- What a stereotype is, and how they can be unfair, negative or destructive.
- The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults.

Online relationships

6.4. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That people sometimes behave differently online, including pretending to be someone they are not.
- That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online, even when we are anonymous.
- The rules and principles for keeping safe online.
- How to recognise harmful content and contact online, and how to report these.
- How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information.

- The risks associated with people they have never met.
- How information and data is shared and used online.

Being safe

6.5. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- What boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others, including in a digital context.
- What is meant by privacy, and how this applies to both children and adults.
- That they have a right to feel safe, and that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to safety.
- That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact.
- How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter, including online, who they do not know.
- How to recognise when they feel unsafe or uncomfortable, and how to report this.
- How to ask for help for themselves and others, and the importance of continuing to seek help until they are heard.
- How to report concerns or abuse, including having the vocabulary and confidence to do so.
- Where to seek advice and support, including from trusted adults at home and at school.

7. Relationships education per year group

7.1. The school is free to determine, within the statutory curriculum content outlined in Section 6, what pupils are taught during each year group.

7.2. The school always considers the age and development of pupils when deciding what will be taught in each year group.

7.3. The school plans a spiral curriculum in which topics are built upon prior knowledge taught in previous years as pupils progress through key stage two, with a view to providing a smooth transition to secondary school.

7.4. For example, concepts such as friendships, personal boundaries and online safety are revisited across Key Stage Two with increasing depth and complexity from Year 3 to Year 6.

7.5. The outline of the content taught in each group is found in the scheme of work.

Forefield Junior School uses the 1decision programme of study and resources as a basis for the PSHE and RSHE curriculum. This programme is adapted and enhanced to meet the needs of each class and individuals within each class. 1decision is also used in our feeder school, Forefield Infant School, which ensures continuity and progression when children make the transition from infant to junior school.

8. Health education overview

Health education is compulsory for all state-funded primary schools. Independent schools are required to teach health education as part of PSHE education.

8.1. The focus at primary level is teaching the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing.

Mental wellbeing

8.2. By the end of primary school pupils will know:

- That mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.
- That there is a normal range of emotions, e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise and nervousness.
- The scale of emotions that humans experience in response to different experiences and situations.
- How to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings.
- How to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving are appropriate and proportionate.
- The benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, and voluntary and service-based activity on mental wellbeing and happiness.

- Simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family, and the benefits of hobbies and interests.
- How isolation and loneliness can affect children, and that it is very important they seek support and discuss their feelings with an adult.
- That bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental wellbeing.
- Where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for seeking support), extending to who in school they should speak to if they are worried about themselves or others.
- That it is common to experience mental ill health and, for the many people who do, the problems can be resolved if the right support is made available, especially if accessed early enough.

Internet safety and harms

8.3. The school places a strong emphasis on online safety within RSHE. Teaching will be aligned with the school's safeguarding and child protection policies.

Please refer to section 11 for further detail about online safety and RSHE.

Physical health and fitness

8.4. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- The characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle.
- The importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this, for example by walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile, or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise.
- The risks associated with an inactive lifestyle, including obesity.
- How and when to seek support, including which adults to speak to in school, if they are worried about their health.

Healthy eating

8.5. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- What constitutes a healthy diet, including an understanding of calories and other nutritional content.
- The principles of planning and preparing a range of healthy meals.

- The characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating, including obesity, and other behaviours, e.g. the impact of alcohol on health.

Drugs, alcohol and tobacco

8.6. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking.

Health and prevention

8.7. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- How to recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss or unexplained changes to the body.
- About safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer.
- The importance of sufficient good-quality sleep for good health, and that a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.
- About dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including regular check-ups at the dentist.
- About personal hygiene and germs, including bacteria and viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of hand washing.
- The facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination.

Basic first aid

8.8. By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- How to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary.
- Concepts of basic first aid, for example dealing with common injuries, including head injuries.

Changing adolescent body

8.9. Teaching will ensure that all pupils are prepared for the physical and emotional changes of puberty before the end of Key Stage Two, in line with statutory expectations includes:

- Key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes.
- About menstrual wellbeing and key facts relating to the menstrual cycle.

9. Health education per year group

9.1. The school is free to determine, within the statutory curriculum content outlined in Section 8, what pupils are taught during each year group.

9.2. The school always considers the age and development of pupils when deciding what will be taught in each year group.

9.3. The school plans a spiral curriculum, in which topics are built upon prior knowledge taught in previous years as pupils progress through school, with a view to providing a smooth transition to secondary school.

9.4. The outline of the content taught in each group is found in the scheme of work.

10. Sex education

Although it is not statutory to deliver sex education outside of the science curriculum at primary level, the DfE recommends that all primary schools should have a sex education programme in place. This should be tailored to the age, and physical and emotional maturity of pupils, and should ensure that boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings, drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle.

10.1. All pupils must be taught the aspects of sex education outlined in the primary science curriculum – this includes teaching about the main external parts of the human body, how it changes as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty, and the reproductive process in some plants and animals.

10.2. In Upper Key Stage Two (Year 6) the school teaches additional age-appropriate sex education beyond what is required of the science curriculum in Y6.

Year 6

- To identify the links between love, committed relationships and conception.

- To know what sexual intercourse is, and how it can be one part of an intimate relationship between consenting adults.
- To understand how pregnancy occurs i.e., when a sperm meets an egg and the fertilised egg settles into the lining of the womb.
- To know about the responsibilities of being a parent or carer and how having a baby changes someone's life.

This content is designed to support pupils' transition to secondary school and is delivered in a sensitive and developmentally appropriate way.

10.3. The school ensures that all sex education content delivered at primary level:

- Is age appropriate and factual.
- Does not include explicit or inappropriate detail.
- Focuses on biological processes, reproduction and preparation for puberty.
- Does not introduce detailed teaching on sexual practices.

10.4. Parents are fully consulted in the organisation and delivery of our sex education curriculum, in accordance with Section 4 and Section 5 of this policy.

11. Online Safety

The school places a strong emphasis on online safety within RSHE. Teaching is aligned with the school's safeguarding and child protection policies.

Pupils will learn:

- How to stay safe online, including using social media, games and messaging platforms.
- The risks of sharing personal information and images and how to keep information private.
- How to recognise and respond to harmful content and contact, including how to report concerns.
- That not all online content is accurate or trustworthy, and how to think critically about information.
- That people may behave differently online, including pretending to be someone that they are not.
- The impact of online behaviour, including how their actions can affect others.
- How to behave respectfully online, including understanding online bullying and harassment.

- The benefits and risks of using the internet, including the importance of managing time spent online.
- Why some online content and platforms are age-restricted, and the reasons for this.
- Where to seek help and support if they feel unsafe or worried online.

12. Delivery of the curriculum

12.1. The RSHE curriculum will be delivered as part of our PSHE curriculum.

12.2. Through effective organisation and delivery of the subject, we will ensure that:

- Core knowledge is sectioned into units of manageable size.
- The required content is communicated to pupils clearly, in a carefully sequenced way, within a planned scheme of work.
- Teaching includes sufficient and well-chosen opportunities and contexts for pupils to embed new knowledge so that it can be used confidently in real-life situations.
- Assessment in RSHE is carried out through pupil discussion, teacher observations and end of topic assessments. This ensures understanding is monitored in a supportive and age-appropriate way.

Forefield Junior School uses the 1decision programme of study and resources as a basis for the PSHE and RSHE curriculum. This programme is adapted and enhanced to meet the needs of each class and individuals within each class. The 1decision programme of study is also used in our feeder school, Forefield Infant School, which ensures continuity and progression when children make the transition from infant to junior school.

12.3. The curriculum is delivered proactively, such that it addresses issues in a timely way in line with current evidence on children's physical, emotional and sexual development.

12.4. Teaching of the curriculum reflects requirements set out in law, particularly the Equality Act 2010, so that pupils understand what the law does and does not allow, and the wider legal implications of the decisions they make.

12.5. Pupils will be taught RSHE content in a way that is factual, age-appropriate, and evidence-based. Teaching will reflect the law, including the Equality Act 2010, and will promote respect for others and understanding of protected characteristics, without promoting personal beliefs or opinions.

12.6. At the point we consider it appropriate to teach pupils about sexual relationships, we will ensure that LGBTQ+ content is fully integrated into the RSHE curriculum, rather than delivered as a standalone unit or lesson.

12.7. The school will ensure that all teaching and materials are appropriate for the ages of the pupils, their religious backgrounds, their developmental stages and any additional needs, such as SEND.

12.8. Lesson plans will provide appropriate challenge for pupils and be differentiated for pupils' needs.

12.9. Classes may be taught in smaller groups, dependent upon the nature of the topic being delivered at the time, and the cultural background of pupils where it is appropriate to deal with these issues with heightened sensitivity.

12.10. Throughout every year group, appropriate diagrams, videos, books, games, discussion and practical activities will be used to assist learning.

12.11. Inappropriate images, videos, etc., will not be used, and resources will be selected with sensitivity given to the age, developmental stage and cultural background of pupils.

12.12. Pupils will be prevented from accessing inappropriate materials on the internet when using such to assist with their learning. The prevention measures taken to ensure this are outlined in the school's Online-safety Policy.

12.13. Teachers will establish what is appropriate for one-to-one and whole class settings and alter their teaching of the programme accordingly.

12.14. Teachers will ensure that pupils' views are listened to and will encourage them to ask questions and engage in discussion. Teachers will answer questions sensitively, honestly and in a manner appropriate to the pupil's age.

12.15. Teachers will ensure pupils are aware of the expectation of them to participate sensitively and respectfully in class discussions of sensitive issues.

12.16. Teachers will stop full class discussions where pupils begin to reveal personal, private information related to sensitive issues. If teachers feel concerned about anything shared by a pupil, they will follow the appropriate response as laid out in the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. The programme will be designed to incorporate all pupils, and activities will be planned to ensure all are actively involved in a safe environment.

12.17. Teachers will focus heavily on the importance of healthy relationships, though sensitivity will always be given as to not stigmatise pupils based on their home circumstances.

12.18. Teachers will ensure that lesson plans are centred around reducing stigma, particularly in relation to mental wellbeing, and encouraging openness through discussion activities and group work.

12.19. Teachers will ensure lesson plans focus on challenging perceived views of pupils based on protected characteristics, through exploration of, and developing mutual respect for, those different to themselves.

12.20. Teaching in Key Stage Two reflects the increasing independence of pupils, including:

- Safe use of technology and social media.
- Awareness of peer influence.
- Preparation for transition to secondary school.

12.21. The school recognises that certain topics may be considered sensitive or contested. Staff will ensure that:

- Teaching will be impartial and based on factual information and safeguarding principles.

- Pupils will be supported to understand the law, respect others, and develop informed views appropriate to their age.

12.22. In line with statutory guidance, teaching about gender and identity will be managed carefully and in an age-appropriate manner. At primary level, teaching will focus on:

- Respect for all individuals.
- Understanding differences.
- Avoiding stereotyping.
- Understanding that everyone should be treated with dignity and respect.

12.23. Teaching about gender and identity will be factual, age-appropriate and delivered in accordance with statutory guidance. Teaching will support pupils to understand respect for others, avoid stereotyping and understand protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. Content will be delivered in a way that is clear, balanced and suitable for primary-aged pupils.

12.24. RSHE will be delivered in an inclusive and respectful way. Teaching will reflect the diversity of families and communities while remaining appropriate to the age and developmental stage of pupils. No content will be taught that is inappropriate for primary-aged children.

13. Working with external providers

13.1. External providers may be invited to assist from time-to-time with the delivery of the programme and will be expected to comply with the provisions of this policy e.g.: School Nurse, First-aid provider (*I Can Save a Life*).

13.2. The school will ensure all visitor credentials are checked before they are able to participate in delivery of the curriculum.

13.3. The school will ensure that the teaching delivered by the external provider fits with the planned curriculum and this policy.

13.4. Before delivering the session, the school will discuss the details of the lesson plan and ensure that the content is age-appropriate and accessible for the pupils.

13.5. The school will also ask to see the materials intended to be used, as well as a copy of the lesson plan, to ensure it meets all pupils' needs, including those with SEND.

13.6. The school will agree with the external provider the procedures for confidentiality, ensuring that the expert understands how safeguarding reports should be dealt with in line with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

13.7. The intended use of external experts is to enhance the curriculum delivered by teachers, rather than as a replacement for teachers.

13.8. External providers must not introduce content outside the agreed curriculum or that contradict statutory guidance.

14. Equality and accessibility

14.1. The school understands its responsibilities in relation to the Equality Act 2010 - specifically that it must not unlawfully discriminate against any pupil because of their protected characteristics. These include:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

14.2. The school is committed to making reasonable adjustments wherever possible to promote accessibility and inclusivity of the curriculum.

14.3. The school understands that pupils with SEND or other needs, such as those with social, emotional or mental health needs, are entitled to learn about RSHE. The curriculum will be designed to be inclusive of all pupils.

14.4. Teachers will understand that they may need to be more explicit and adapt their planning of work and teaching methods in order to appropriately deliver the programme to pupils with SEND or other needs. All of 1decision's resources are editable so that teachers are able to meet the needs of all pupils within their class.

14.5. When deciding whether support is necessary to support pupils with a particular protected characteristic, we will consider our pupils' needs, including the gender and age range of our pupils.

14.6. In order to foster healthy and respectful peer-to-peer communication and behaviour between all pupils, the school implements a robust Behaviour Policy, as well as a Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, which set out expectations of pupils.

14.7. The school understands that the RSHE curriculum may include topics which are triggers for teaching staff, and could relate to historic, recent, or current trauma. If this is the case, the school encourages staff to approach their line manager or the DSL to discuss this.

The school ensures that teaching about equality does not conflict with safeguarding responsibilities or age-appropriateness.

Teaching will support pupils in understanding equality, diversity, and inclusion in an age-appropriate way, in line with the Equality Act 2010.

15. Curriculum links

15.1. The school seeks opportunities to draw links between the RSHE curriculum and other curriculum subjects wherever possible to enhance pupils' learning.

15.2. RSHE will be linked to the following subjects in particular:

- **Science** – pupils learn about the main external parts of the body and changes to the body as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty.
- **Computing and ICT** – pupils learn about e-safety, including how to use technology safely, responsibly, respectfully and securely, how to keep personal information private and how to access help and support.

- **PE** – pupils explore various physical activities, are physically active for sustained periods of time, engage in competitive sport and understand how exercise can lead to healthier lifestyles.
- **British Values** – pupils learn about the requirements of the law, their responsibilities and the possible consequences of their actions.
- **PSHE** – pupils learn about respect and difference, values and characteristics of individuals.

16. Withdrawing from the subjects

16.1. Relationships and health education are statutory at primary and parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from the subjects.

16.2. As sex education is not statutory at primary level, other than what must be taught as part of the science curriculum, parents have the right to request to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex education curriculum.

16.3. Requests for withdrawal from aspects of RSHE may initially be discussed with the class teacher, PSHE/RSHE Lead, Deputy Headteacher, or another member of the Senior Leadership Team, as appropriate. These discussions will help ensure that parents, and where appropriate their child, understand the nature and purpose of the curriculum and that their wishes are clearly understood. In accordance with section 16.2, the Headteacher will automatically grant withdrawal requests; however, the Headteacher will maintain oversight of all requests and will be informed of any discussions and decisions relating to them.

16.4. The Headteacher will discuss with the parent, the benefits of receiving this important education and any adverse effects that withdrawal may have on the pupil – this could include, for example, the social and emotional effects of being excluded.

16.5. The Headteacher will keep a record of the discussion between themselves, the pupil and the parent.

16.6. The Headteacher will grant a parent's request to withdraw their child from sex education, other than the content that must be taught as part of the science curriculum.

16.7. The parent will be informed in writing of the Headteacher's decision.

16.8. Where a pupil is withdrawn from sex education, the Headteacher will ensure that the pupil receives appropriate alternative education.

16.9. Parents will be informed in advance of when sex education is due to be taught, to allow time for discussion and decision-making.

17. Behaviour

17.1. The school has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying and harassment. We aim to foster a culture based on mutual respect and understanding for one another.

17.2. Any bullying incidents caused as a result of the RSHE curriculum, such as those relating to sexual orientation, will be dealt with as seriously as other bullying incidents within the school.

17.3. These incidents will be dealt with following the processes in our Behaviour Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy.

18. Staff training

18.1. All staff members at the school will undergo training to ensure they are up-to date with the RSHE curriculum and statutory requirements.

18.2. Training of staff will be scheduled around any updated guidance and to ensure they are fully equipped to teach the subjects effectively.

18.3. Training will include:

- Safeguarding updates
- Handling sensitive questions
- Delivering content in a neutral and factual manner
- Understanding statutory limits on primary RSHE content

19. Confidentiality

19.1. Confidentiality within the classroom is an important component of the RSHE curriculum.

19.2. Teachers will alert the Headteacher and Designated Safeguard Lead (DSL) about any suspicions of inappropriate behaviour or potential abuse as per the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

19.3. Pupils will be fully informed of the school's responsibilities in terms of confidentiality and will be aware of what action may be taken if they choose to report a concern or make a disclosure.

19.4. Any reports made during lessons, or as a result of the content taught through the curriculum, will be reported to the DSL and handled in accordance with the Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Policy.

19.5. Staff will not offer or imply absolute confidentiality and will always act in the best interest of safeguarding the child.

20. Monitoring quality

20.1. The PSHE/RSHE subject leader is responsible for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning for the subjects.

20.2. The PSHE subject leader will monitor and evaluate the RSHE curriculum in line with the school's assessment and monitoring procedures.

20.3. The PSHE subject leader will report to the Headteacher and Governing Body in the annual subject leader report.

20.4. The PSHE subject leader will work regularly and consistently with the Headteacher and RSE link governor.

21. Monitoring and review

21.1. This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure compliance with the latest statutory guidance and safeguarding requirements.

21.2. The Local Governing Board is responsible for approving this policy and providing strategic oversight of its implementation.

21.3. The Local Governing Board is responsible for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of this policy and receiving updates from school leaders as appropriate.

21.4. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to the Local Governing Board, all staff, parents and, where necessary, pupils.