



# ***Gusford Primary School***

“Together we believe, learn and achieve”

PSHE RSHE Policy  
For academic year 2023-24

# Gusford Primary School Primary School

## PSHE, Citizenship, Relationships and Sex Education Policy

### Introduction

Our Personal, Social, Health, Economic Education (PSHE Education) programme alongside our Relationships, Sex Education (RSE) programme promote children's personal, social and economic development, as well as their health and wellbeing. It helps to give children the knowledge and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy and independent lives and to become informed responsible citizens. We believe it is the duty of our school to give our children the learning that will enable them to live safe, fulfilled and healthy lives. This includes giving them all the skills they will need to survive and thrive in the modern world. This policy covers our school's approach and attitude towards PSHE and RSE. It is available on our school website and in printed form on request. We aim to meet the learning objectives as set out in the Relationships & Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019.

### Curriculum Design

#### PSHE

PSHE is a non-statutory subject however there are aspects of it we are required to teach. We must teach relationships education under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, in line with the terms set out in statutory guidance. We must also teach health education under the same statutory guidance. The curriculum is delivered by a variety of school staff including but not limited to class teachers, the pastoral team, senior leadership team and HLTAs. When appropriate opportunities are available, the curriculum will be supplemented by visitors and other external agencies to give children the highest quality provision available. At Gusford Primary School Primary, we use the Kapow and the PSHE Association to support our planning. This is supplemented with up to date resources for more difficult issues e.g. PREVENT, bullying, racism, homophobia etc. Furthermore, we also ensure that we incorporate and respect all social, moral, spiritual and cultural issues, encouraging our children to think about their place within Britain as citizens. We include the five British Values (democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths/beliefs) within all of our teachings to establish an effective and safe school environment. For a full overview of what is covered please refer to the school website in the PSHE section.

#### Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education. This relationships and sex education policy covers our approach to teaching relationships and sex education (RSE). It will be reviewed every two years, or sooner if the RSE curriculum is amended, in response to emerging themes, changing pupil needs, or introduction of new legislation and guidance.

## **Values, aims and objectives:**

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships and reproduction. RSE empowers children to build self-esteem, offer positive and open views, support mutual respect and celebration of self and others, providing a strong foundation to be successful in life by:

- Providing a spiral curriculum, allowing for the development of knowledge relevant to the age and stage of the learner.
- Providing an inclusive learning environment which is safe and empowering for everyone involved, based on the belief that bullying, prejudice and discrimination is unacceptable.
- Teaching non-biased, accurate and factual information that is positively inclusive.
- Developing character skills to support healthy and safe relationships, ensure comfortable communication about emotions, bodies and relationships using the appropriate terminology.
- Promoting critical awareness of differing attitudes and views presented through society, the media and peers to enable the nurturing of personal values based on respect.
- Providing protection from shock or guilt.
- Ensuring pupils are informed of their rights, including the legal framework and how to access confidential help to keep themselves and others safe.

## **Content Delivery**

RSE should not be delivered in isolation but firmly embedded in all curriculum areas, including Personal, Social Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship. The content is normally delivered by class teachers in mixed gender groups. Activities which involve children's full participation are used. Occasionally, appropriate and suitably experienced and/or knowledgeable visitors from outside school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of RSE in school.

The role of visitors in regards to RSE

- Visitors are invited into school because of the particular expertise or contribution they are able to make;
- All visitors are familiar with and understand the school's RSE policy and work within it;
- All input to PSHE lessons are part of a planned programme and negotiated and agreed with staff in advance;
- All visitors are supervised/supported by a member of staff at all times;
- The input of visitors is monitored and evaluated by staff and pupils. This evaluation informs future planning.

## **Equality Act 2010**

As part of the PSHE & RSE taught in school we have a duty to discuss all nine protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010. These are age, disability, chosen gender, marriage/civil partnership, race, religion/belief, biological sex, sexual orientation and pregnancy/maternity. Under this provision, schools cannot discriminate against pupils, staff or visitors due to these characteristics. Gusford Primary School Primary will always take positive actions to deal with particular issues within the school environment, including ways to foster healthy relationships between peers. We embed these discussions into our PSHE and RSE lessons, teaching them as part of our wider curriculum rather than as discrete lessons. We also cover topics such as anti-bullying, racism, terrorism, online safety and safeguarding, as detailed in their own individual policies. These are also covered using the Equality Act to ensure everyone is included in the discussions. Teaching within these areas is integrated into the wider curriculum and not just taught as stand-alone aspects.

## **The role of parents**

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's RSE 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:

- consult parents about the school's RSHE policy and practice;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the RSHE of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about the arrangements for RSHE in the school.

## **Withdrawal**

Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education provided at school. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the Headteacher who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the RSE programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed.

## **Equal Opportunities Statement**

The school is committed to the provision of RSE to all of its pupils. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds. Equal time and provision will be allocated for all groups but there may be occasions where pupils with Special Educational Needs are given extra support from SEND staff.

## **Child Protection**

The school has a separate Child Protection Policy. Effective RSE may bring about disclosures of child protection issues and staff should be aware of the procedures for reporting their concerns. Other related policies and documents include the Mental Health policy, Anti-Bullying policy, Drug Education Policy and the Child Protection Policy.

## **Dissemination**

The RSE policy is available for staff and parents on the school website.

## **Assessing and Monitoring**

The RSE policy is to be reviewed every 2 years and appropriate amendments to be made where needed. Information from staff, survey results and quantitative data will all feed in to the review of the RSE policy to ensure effectiveness and relevance. The Headteacher monitors this policy on a regular basis, and reports to Governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

Policy written: December 2023

Parental consultation ended: 26.2.24

To be ratified by Governors: 18.3.24