

MARYPORT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

Relationships Education

This policy covers our approach to Relationships Education; a statutory component of the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum from September 2020. It aims to set out the purpose of Relationships Education and the intended outcomes for pupils, what is covered in our curriculum and how it is delivered.

We define Relationships Education as learning about the many strands of relationships and growing up. This includes family relationships, 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.

This policy was produced by Mrs C Hurst (PSHE co-ordinator) in consultation with all stakeholders
[Policy reviewed on 23rd January 2024](#)

Purpose and Principles

At our school, we believe in providing every pupil with open, honest, accurate and age-appropriate lessons all about relationships. Through the school's ethos and values, we aim to develop children'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 will 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 children.

Through our comprehensive Relationships Education provision, we aim to provide all pupils with:

- the knowledge and understanding of a variety of relationships;
- the ability to identify any concerns they have about a relationship;
- coping strategies and an awareness of how and where to seek support;
- an understanding of their rights and responsibilities within a range of relationships;
- an awareness of the process of growing up and the changes they and others will experience;
- an understanding of the characteristics of positive relationships.

(See SCARF overview on the school website for when different aspects will be taught).

Statutory Regulations

From September 2020, all primary schools must deliver Relationships Education. Under the Education Act 2002/Academies Act 2010, all schools must provide a balanced and broadly-based curriculum which:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
- prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

Documents that inform the school's Relationships Education Policy include:

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- Education Act (1996)
- Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010),
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21st century (2014)
- Keeping children safe in education – Statutory safeguarding guidance (2016)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

Roles and Responsibilities

The Relationships Education programme in our school will be led by Mrs Hurst.

The Governor whole child Committee is responsible for overseeing Relationships Education programme.

All staff members involved in teaching and supporting the Relationships Education curriculum will be trained and supported by Coram Life Education and Mrs Hurst/Mrs Pape.

Our Relationships Education Curriculum

Our inclusive Relationships curriculum supports the objectives set out by the PSHE Association which meet the statutory requirements for Key Stage 1 and 2. At our school we are using the leading children's health and wellbeing charity, Coram Life Education (CLE) <https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/> to support us in meeting these legal requirements. We do this in a number of ways:

- A visit from a mobile classroom and educator to deliver aspects of the Relationships Education and Health Education programme
- Using their online SCARF teaching resources; it forms a core part of our comprehensive Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

Our Relationships Scheme of Work can be viewed at <https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/> and on the school website.

Learning in Relationships Education lessons will link to learning in Science and other areas of the curriculum to promote the all-round development of our children.

Our lessons will be differentiated where appropriate, ensuring all children are able to participate fully. Children will be given the opportunity throughout the units of work to reflect on and evaluate their learning - assessment opportunities are built in to every lesson.

Delivering the Curriculum

Our PSHE lessons are taught by staff who are trained in delivering the specific content of the lessons. Ground rules will be established in class and children reminded of these. Special consideration will be given when teaching particularly sensitive content and staff will be fully aware of the children in their class and how they might relate to the lesson content.

We aim to create and maintain a safe environment within which all children feel able to ask questions and discuss issues openly. For any child wishing to discuss something confidential, relating to the lesson

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content, an opportunity will be provided. Each class also has a question box, which gives children the option to write down their questions and receive an answer on a one-to-one basis, rather than in front of the whole class. Distancing techniques will be employed in our Relationships Education, as with other areas of the PSHE curriculum, meaning that children are able to discuss fictional characters and scenarios, rather than discuss their own lives and experiences.

In order to meet the needs of all children and to make our lessons engaging, we aim to deliver our Relationships Education curriculum through a variety of teaching methods and interactive activities, including:

active learning by including the children in discussions, investigations and problem-solving activities.

encouraging the children to take part in a range of practical activities that promote active citizenship, e.g. charity fundraising, the planning of school special events such as an assembly or open evening, or involvement in an activity to help other individuals or groups less fortunate than themselves.

organising classes in such a way that pupils are able to participate in discussion to resolve conflicts or set agreed classroom rules of behaviour.

offering children the opportunity to hear visiting speakers, such as health workers, police, and representatives from the local church, whom we invite into the school to talk about their role in creating a positive and supportive local community.

Assessment, Monitoring and Reporting

Self-assessment is an important part of learning in Relationships Education and PSHE. Children will reflect on their learning throughout the units. We highly value pupil voice and will take into account the opinions and comments of our children about what they would like to learn.

Staff delivering the Relationships curriculum will critically reflect on their teaching and best practice will be shared through lesson observations, monitoring of planning and children's work and training opportunities.

Safeguarding

Teachers are aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. In this instance, teachers will consult with the designated safeguarding lead and in her absence, one of the deputy Safeguarding leads.

Safeguarding lead: Mrs J Ormond

Safeguarding deputy:

Mrs S Armstrong, Miss E Pape, Mrs T Bell

Visitors and external agencies which support the delivery of Relationships Education will be required to adhere to the school's safeguarding policy and policies relating to the subjects they are teaching or contributing towards.

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Engaging Stakeholders

Parents and carers have the legal right to withdraw their child from all or part of sex education taught as part of statutory Relationships Education, with the exception of the objectives included in National Curriculum science. Those considering this option are asked to speak with Mrs Ormond in order to find out more about this.

Reviewing the Policy

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually.