## PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Schools have a statutory responsibility to promote equality and diversity through the teaching of protected characteristics.

This document highlights how the teaching of Protected Characteristics has been embedded into our curriculum, in addition to our assembles and PSHCE lessons.

Characteristic	Taught within	Additional Information		
Age	EYFS	Science (All about me) – Meeting EYFS statement related to SRE: Learning about people in my family		
Where this is referred to, it				
refers to a person belonging to a particular age (for example, 32-year-olds) or	Y2 Autumn 1	Science (Wriggle & Crawl) – Meeting Y2 statement: animals have offspring and grow into adults		
range of ages (for example, 18- to 30-year olds).	Y3/4 Summer 2A & Autumn 1A	Science (Predator! & Tribal Tales) – Lesson on age and the changes humans go through with reference to puberty and the changes that happen as children become teenagers. Discussion about pubic hair and about how different people develop at different rates		
	Y4/5 Autumn 2 & Spring 2	Science (Peasant, Princes & Pestilence; Sow, Grow & Farm) – Children study the life cycle of human. Discussion about puberty and the changes that happen as children become teenagers. Discussion about pubic hair and about how different people develop at different rates		
Disability	Y1 Spring 1	Science (Superheroes) – Children learn about the basic body parts, include discussion around physical disabilities		
A person has a disability if she or he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-	Y3/4 Spring 2B	Science (Blue Abyss) – Lessons and discussions around how humans have adapted to change with regards to disability		

term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day to-day activities.	Y3/4 Summer 2A & Spring 1A	Science (Predator! & Misty Mountain Sierra) – Lessons and discussions around how humans have adapted to change with regards to disability
	Y3/4 Summer 1A	Flow - Detailed discussions how each person has strengths, skills and qualities.
	Y4/5 Autumn 1	Science (Darwin's Delights) – Discuss disability and how humans adapt to changes
	Y4/5 Summer 1	Science (Darwin's Delights) – Lesson on protecting hearing and how this can lead to developing a disability if you do not protect your hearing
	Y5/6 Spring 1A	Science (Frozen Kingdom) – Class discussion on discrimination and differences – being old, disabled or Muslim are the examples given. Leads to a conversation about challenging stereotypes
Gender Reassignment	EYFS – Y6	Celebrating Differences Day – LGBTQ+; Gender Reassignment; Marriage & Civil Partnership; Sexual Orientation; Race;; Religion & Belief
The process of transitioning from one gender to another	Y4/5 Autumn 1	Science (Darwin's Delights) – Discuss how people can choose and like different things, you don't have to like the same things
	Y5/6 Autumn 2A	(Science) Beast Creator – Discuss the differences between boys and girls, debunking myths around girl and boy's preferences and abilities
	Y5/6 Spring 2A	<b>Revolution -</b> Discuss the differences between boys and girls, debunking myths around girl and boy's preferences and abilities
Marriage & Civil	EYFS – Y6	Celebrating Differences Day – LGBTQ+; Gender Reassignment; Marriage &
Partnership		Civil Partnership; Sexual Orientation; Race;; Religion & Belief
Marriage is no longer restricted to a union		

between a man and a woman but now includes a marriage between a same-	EYFS Spring 1	Winter Wonderland – Discussions and lessons on building constructive and positive relationships. What relationships can we see around us?
sex couple. Same-sex couples can also have their	Y1 Spring 1	<b>Superheroes –</b> People can be special and have special and have a special place in someone's life for many different reasons. Special people should be treated with love and respect.
relationships legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'. Civil partners must not be treated less favourably than married couples (except where permitted by the Equality Act).	Y5/6 Summer 1A	<b>Tomorrow's World –</b> Discuss same sex marriages, civil partnerships and the importance of respecting others. Reference to families being characterised by love and care rather than who is in it (if one parent is absent for example)
Pregnancy & Maternity  Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or	Y5/6 Spring 2B	Science (Allotment) – Lessons around reproduction and how babies are made in regards to how a human baby grows and develops in the womb and is then born. Discussion about maternity care and how this is now open to both parents
expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.	Y5/6 Autumn 2A	Science (Beast Creator) – Lessons around reproduction and how babies are made in regards to how a human baby grows and develops in the womb and is then born. Discussion about maternity care and how this is now open to both parents

Race	EYFS – Y6	Celebrating Differences Day – LGBTQ+; Gender Reassignment; Marriage &
Refers to the protected		Civil Partnership; Sexual Orientation; Race;; Religion & Belief
characteristic of Race. It		Superheroes – People can be special and have special and have a special place
refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour,	Y1 Spring 1	in someone's life for many different reasons. Special people should be treated with love and respect.
and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.	Y1 Summer 1	<b>Rio de Vida</b> – It is important to get along with other people. Listening to other's points of view and compromising
	Y2 Summer 2	<b>Bright Lights, Big City</b> – Discussions on how it is important to get along with other people, to listen to their points of view and treat with respect, expressing your views while being respectful of others in order to have successful relationships
	Y3/4 Summer 2B	Road Trip USA – Lesson discussion about being proud of differences – include stories of Rosa Parkes or Martin Luther King and racism and how the world has evolved now. Discuss challenging discrimination.
Religion, belief or lack of religion or belief	EYFS – Y6	Celebrating Differences Day – LGBTQ+; Gender Reassignment; Marriage & Civil Partnership; Sexual Orientation; Race;; Religion & Belief
	EYFS Autumn 2	Christmas is Coming Discussions around different religious holidays
Religion has the meaning		
usually given to it but belief	Y3/4 Spring 2A	Code and Martala Discussions on how to recole differences and conflicts
includes religious and philosophical beliefs	Y5/6 Autumn 1B	<b>Gods and Mortals –</b> Discussions on how to resole differences and conflicts.  These include looking at alternatives, seeing and respecting others' points of
including lack of belief (such	13/0 Addinii 1B	view, making decisions and explaining choices
as Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life		A Child's War – Detailed lessons and discussions on human rights and how the
choices or the way you live		discrimination of a religious group led to so many deaths in WW2
for it to be included in the		and many additional and resignated group rounds to do many addition in the many
definition.	Autumn 1	RE (Cultures Week) – Lessons and discussions on respecting beliefs, listening
	Spring 1	to other points of view.
	Summer 1 (all year groups)	
	Tan year groups	

Sex	Y4/5 Autumn 1	Science (Darwin's Delights) -Sex Ed to be addressed
A man or a woman.	Y4/5 Spring 2	<b>Science (So, Grow &amp; Farm) -</b> Children study the life cycle of human. Discussion about puberty and the changes that happen as children become teenagers. Discussion about pubic hair and about how different people develop at different rates
	Y5/6 Spring 2B	<b>Science (Allotment)</b> – Detailed lessons about puberty changes the body goes through in preparing for adulthood. Conversation about periods and sperm production and references to this for being ready for reproductive purposes. Discussions about relationships and how communication and respect is important. All types of relationships referenced.
	Y5/6 Autumn 2A	Science (Beast Creator) – Detailed lessons about puberty changes the body goes through in preparing for adulthood. Conversation about periods and sperm production and references to this for being ready for reproductive purposes. Discussions about relationships and how communication and respect is important. All types of relationships referenced.
Sexual Orientation  Whether a person's sexual	EYFS – Y6	Celebrating Differences Day – LGBTQ+; Gender Reassignment; Marriage & Civil Partnership; Sexual Orientation; Race;; Religion & Belief
attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.	Y5/6 Spring 2B	<b>Science (Allotment)</b> – In reference to sexual reproduction, all types of relationships are discussed.
	Y5/6 Autumn 2A	<b>Science (Beast Creator) –</b> In reference to sexual reproduction, all types of relationships are discussed.
	Y5/6 Summer 1A	<b>Tomorrow's World –</b> In reference to Sir Alan Turing's sexuality, talking stereotypes. Lessons about different types of families, the specific vocabulary of same sex couples ad how they also get married. Children look at pictures of families and talk about different relationships within a family.

## Faith teachings on protected characteristics

Schools are at liberty to teach the tenets of any faith regarding the protected characteristics. For example, they may explain that same-sex relationships and gender reassignment are not permitted by a particular religion. However, if they do so, they must also explain the legal rights LGBT people have under UK law, and that this and LGBT people must be respected.

## Requirements in the DfE's statutory guidance

The DfE's statutory guidance requires that all schools must:

- have an up-to-date policy, which is made available to parents and others and consult parents in developing and reviewing that policy in all cases
- take into account the age and religious background of all pupils and ensure that their teaching is appropriate to their age and religious background, to ensure that the topics outlined in the statutory guidance are appropriately handled
- comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010, including that they:
  - must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils by treating them less favourably because they have one or more of the protected characteristics
  - must make reasonable adjustments to alleviate disadvantage, for example by taking positive action to deal with particular disadvantages affecting a group because of a protected characteristic. The statutory guidance gives the example of taking positive action to support girls if there is evidence that they are being disproportionately subjected to sexual harassment
- make relationships education and/or RSE accessible for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities
- ensure that teaching reflects the law (including the Equality Act 2010) as it applies to relationships, so that young people clearly understand what the law allows and does not allow, and the wider implications of decisions they may make
- ensure that the materials used to support teaching are appropriate for the age and maturity of pupils and sensitive to their needs
- ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect
- ensure that teaching is sensitive and age-appropriate in approach and content
- work closely with parents in all cases when planning and delivering the subjects, ensuring that parents know what will be taught and when, and clearly communicate the fact that parents have the right to request that the child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE

The DfE expects secondary schools, state-funded or independent, to deliver teaching on LGBT relationships and encourages primary schools to do so.