



Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

Reviewed: November 2020

Next review: November 2022

November 2020	Policy updated to reflect current Government statutory policy	Angela Culshaw, Key Stage Two Lead
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This policy was reviewed at the Local Advisory Board Meeting in Autumn 2 2020.



RELATIONSHIPS, SEX AND HEALTH EDUCATION POLICY

Aims

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place.
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of physical development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Respect for their own bodies
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around schools around sexuality, relationships and accepting difference
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Empower children to say 'no' to unwanted sexual activity and that everyone has the right to refuse or withdraw consent and that right must always be respected

Policy Development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents as required by the Department for Education. We are committed to on-going consultation with families and stakeholders throughout the evolution of our school's relationships education programme.

This process involved the following steps:

1. Review – a working group pulled together all relevant information
2. Staff consultation – staff had the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to look at the policy, look at examples of resources, and make recommendations
4. Pupil consultation – we spoke to pupils about the skills they would like to learn
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

Statutory Requirements

Since September 2020 it is compulsory to teach Relationships and Health Education in primary schools as part of the National Curriculum. Further information can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education.

Although it is not compulsory to teach Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in primary schools, the Department for Education continues to recommend that all primary schools have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. The elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum are compulsory.

At Wistaston Church Lane Academy we teach Relationships and Health Education and Relationships and Sex Education as set out in this policy.

Definitions

Relationships Education will put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships, including with family, friends and online. Children will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them. It involves learning about relationships, sexuality, diversity and personal identity. In an age-appropriate way, children will learn to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect.



Health Education in primary schools is learning the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing. Teachers should be clear that mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.

Sex Education is about the emotional and social development of pupils and involves learning about our bodies and how they change. It is about understanding the importance of loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex and sexual health. It involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values. It is never about the promotion of sexual activity.

Delivery

Relationships education will be inclusive for all pupils, sensitive to all family and faith backgrounds and pupils' own identities. It will be respectful of all protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. Protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex (gender), sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity.

To deliver our Relationships Education we will use the principles of No Outsiders.

To deliver our Health Education we use the PSHE Association Scheme. Some aspects of Health Education are taught within our PE curriculum.

To deliver our Sex Education we use the Christopher Winters Scheme. Biological aspects of Sex Education are taught within the science curriculum.

Appropriate visitors may be invited into school to support the delivery of Relationships, Sex and Health Education.

Further information and an overview of the schemes we use is available on our school website.

Right to withdraw

Staff members do not have the right to opt out of teaching Relationships and Health Education. Staff members who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the Principal.

Parents do not have the right to withdraw children from RSE except for the elements of Sex Education which are not part of the statutory science curriculum (the lessons using The Christopher Winters Scheme). Each year the school will inform parents of the right to withdraw from these aspects of teaching.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the Principal. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The Principal will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from RSE.

Roles and Responsibilities

Local Advisory Board

The LAB will approve the Relationships, Sex and Health Education and hold the Principal to account for its implementation.

Principal



The Principal is responsible for ensuring that Relationships, Sex and Health Education is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of Sex Education.

Staff

Staff members are responsible for:

- Delivering content in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to Relationships, Sex and Health Education
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory components of Sex Education
- Engage in relevant professional development

Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully and, when discussing issues related to these subjects, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

Parents

Parents are asked to consider the importance of this learning for their child and respond appropriately.

Related Policies

The content of relationships education is supported by the following policies; Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Anti-bullying strategy, Equality policy and SEND policy.