



Relationships and sex education (RSE) policy

Independent School Standards and other requirements	Paragraphs 2(2)(d) and 5(b)(vi) and The Relationships and Sex Education Regulations 2019 made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017.
Last updated by senior leaders	June 2021
Last reviewed by external consultant	June 2021
Next review due	June 2022

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

As per the latest DfE statutory requirements, policy content includes:

- defining relationships and sex education
- subject content, how and when it is taught
- how the subject is monitored
- information for families.

Introduction to RSE

- RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity. RSE involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values.
- In light of the 'Everyone's Invited' review especially, we are absolutely committed to teaching pupils about healthy relationships.
- RSE is one way in which we ensure the curriculum pays regard to all the protected characteristics, including sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity.
- RSE in no way promotes sexual activity.

Subject content, how and when it is taught

- RSE is taught within the school's personal, social, health and citizenship education (PSHCE) curriculum. Some biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum. A visiting nurse leads an annual workshop in Year 6 about growing up.
- We teach PSHE at Key Stages 1–2 and PSHCE at Key Stages 3–4. As part of this subject, Relationships Education (at Key Stages 1–2) and Relationships and Sex Education (at Key Stages 3–4) are taught regularly, each year, progressively building on pupils' prior learning.
- At Key Stages 1–2, Relationships Education is taught by classroom teachers and at Key Stages 3–4, RSE is taught by a qualified and experienced PSHE and Citizenship teacher.
- Some aspects of RSE are also regularly covered in other areas such as assemblies and visiting workshops or events.
- RSE is delivered through a varied range of teaching activities which promote dialogue and understanding, such as circle time, discussion and role play.
- The school also employs a nurse to provide support and advice for pupils, especially for our secondary-aged pupils.

We ensure coverage of the RSE national statutory guidance which aims to:

- help pupils develop an understanding of the different types of relationships, including family relationships
- help pupils to develop skills in forming, respecting and maintaining relationships with others, including their peers
- help pupils develop understanding of online relationships, being safe and the media
- teach pupils about the changes to their body that occur during puberty
- teach pupils about reproduction, intimate and sexual relationships, including LGBT+ relationships, sexual health and gender identity (from the senior school onwards for secondary-age pupils).

How the subject is monitored

- Subject coordinators oversee and monitor RSE as part of PSHE and PSHCE.
- RSE (as part of PSHCE) is externally scrutinised by an external advisor as part of our regular focused review quality checks, as are all subjects.

Information for families

- We will always inform families, in advance, of when the RSE programme is being taught and will provide an opportunity for families to view the subject overview. Families can also request the RSE subject overview from a subject coordinator at any time.
- Families have the right to withdraw their child/ren from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE. Requests for withdrawal should be directed to the Head of Year who will discuss the request with families and take appropriate action.
- For pupils who are withdrawn from RSE, appropriate alternative work will be given to them. However, there is no right to withdraw pupils from Relationships Education.

Pedagogical development for staff

- Teachers are trained to teach RSE and meet on a regular basis with other teachers and coordinators during quality of education CPD meetings.