

Backworth Park Primary School



Relationships Health and Sex Education Policy

November 2025

Contents:

Statement of intent

1. Legal framework
2. Roles and responsibilities
3. Organisation of the curriculum
4. Consultation with parents
5. Relationships education overview
6. Relationships education per year group
7. Health education overview
8. Health education per year group
9. Sex education
10. Delivery of the curriculum
11. Working with external experts
12. Equality and accessibility
13. Curriculum links
14. Withdrawing from the subjects
15. Behaviour
16. Staff training
17. Confidentiality
18. Quality of education
19. Monitoring and review

Statement of intent

At Backworth Park Primary School, we will provide age-appropriate relationships, health and sex education (RHSE) to all pupils as part of the school's statutory curriculum. Our school aims to assure parents and pupils that all aspects of RHSE will be delivered in a safe space, allowing time and compassion for questions at a level that every pupil understands. Sensitive topics relating to RHSE will be delivered in a sensitive manner as part of a whole-school approach.

Relationship and health education is compulsory in all primary schools in England. The key topics applicable for all key stages have been carefully planned in consultation with responses from parents, young people, schools and experts. We will listen and respond to the views of pupils and parents to ensure we are proactive and respond to any emerging needs within school to cover topics with age appropriate intervention, building positive relationships and avoiding harms before they occur. We will work in partnership and inform parents, sharing relevant information and material. Parents are given the opportunity to discuss this policy at any time and staff will be provided with accurate training and further resources to deliver lessons to pupils.

We understand that pupils must be provided with an education that prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. A key part of this relates to relationships education, which is required to be delivered to every primary-aged pupil. Primary schools also have the option to decide whether pupils are taught sex education.

Relationships education focusses on giving pupils the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships, and ensures can talk to a trusted adult if there is anything worrying them. Health and Sex Education focusses on equipping pupils with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about their own health and ensures they receive factual information about the changes they will experience emotionally and physically during puberty.

We understand our responsibility to deliver a high-quality, age-appropriate and evidence-based relationships, sex and Education (RHSE) for all our pupils. This policy sets out the framework for our RSHE curriculum, providing clarity on how it is informed, organised and delivered. Any sex education included within the curriculum consists of age-appropriate content which covers how babies are conceived and how they are born. Sex education does not go above and beyond the focus of reproduction.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Section 80A of the Education Act 2002
- Equality Act 2010
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019
- DfE (2013) 'Science programmes of study: key stages 1 and 2'
- DfE (2021) 'Teaching about relationships, sex and health'
- DfE (2025) 'Keeping children safe in education 2025'
- DfE (2025) 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- SEND Policy
- Inclusion Policy
- Pupil Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Staff Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Child-on-child Abuse Policy
- Pupil Confidentiality Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Visitor Policy
- School Improvement Plan (SIP)
- PSHE Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Playing an active role in monitoring, developing and reviewing the policy and its implementation in school.
- Appointing a link governor for RSHE who supports the school and monitors any aspects of RSHE included within the SIP.
- Ensuring all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes.
- Ensuring the curriculum is well led, effectively managed and well planned.
- Evaluating the quality of provision through regular and effective self-evaluation.
- Ensuring teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND.
- Providing clear information for parents on subject content and their rights to request that their children are withdrawn.
- Making sure the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures the school can fulfil its legal obligations.

- Creating and keeping up-to-date a separate written statement of this policy and ensuring the statement is published on the school's website and provided free of charge to anyone who requests it.
- Ensuring that all staff receive ongoing training on issues relating to PSHE and RSE and how to deliver lessons on such issues.
- Ensuring that all staff are up to date with policy changes, and familiar with school policy and guidance relating to RSE.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring adequate time on school timetable to deliver RSE as a statutory curriculum subject.
- Providing support to staff members who feel uncomfortable or ill-equipped to deal with the delivery of RHE to pupils; for example, if staff do not feel that their training has been adequate or that aspects of the curriculum conflict with their religious beliefs.
- Ensuring that parents are fully informed of this policy and the RSE resources are available to parents beforehand.
- Reviewing requests from parents to withdraw their children from the subjects.
- Discussing requests for withdrawal with parents.
- Organising alternative education for pupils, where necessary, that is appropriate and purposeful.
- Reporting to the governing board on the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing this policy on an annual basis.

The RSE subject leader is responsible for:

- Overseeing the delivery of RSE using positive language and careful sequencing for a whole school approach.
- Ensuring that staff values and attitudes will not prevent them from providing a balanced RSE in school.
- Providing the agreed vocabulary to be used during the lessons to ensure a consistent approach.
- Ensuring the subjects are age-appropriate and high-quality and up-to-date.
- Ensuring teachers are provided with adequate resources to support teaching of the subjects.
- Ensuring the school meets its statutory requirements in relation to the relationships, and health curriculum.
- Ensuring the relationships and sex education curriculum, is inclusive and accessible for all pupils.
- Working with other subject leaders to ensure the relationships and health curriculum complements, but does not duplicate, the content covered in the national curriculum.
- Liaising and working in partnership with parents and carers to support further conversations at home and to share the resources ahead of teaching upon request.
- Liaising and responding to the views of children to ensure their needs are met within the curriculum.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the subjects and providing reports to the headteacher.

The SENCO is responsible for:

- Advising teaching staff how best to identify and support pupils' individual needs.
- Advising staff on the use of TAs in order to meet pupils' individual needs.
- Ensuring that the needs of vulnerable pupils are taken into consideration in designing and teaching these subjects.

The appropriate teachers are responsible for:

- Delivering a high-quality and age-appropriate relationships and health curriculum in line with statutory requirements.
- Using a variety of teaching methods and resources to provide an engaging curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils.
- Ensuring they do not express personal views or beliefs when delivering the programme.
- Modelling positive attitudes to relationships, sex and health.
- Responding to any safeguarding concerns in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
- Acting in accordance with planning, monitoring and assessment requirements for the subjects.
- Liaising with the SENCO to identify and respond to individual needs of pupils with SEND.
- Working with the RSE subject leader to evaluate the quality of provision.

In line with the responsibilities outlined in the list above, RHE will only be delivered by class teachers and will not be delivered by supply agency staff or cover teachers.

Parents are responsible for:

- Enabling their children to grow and mature and to form healthy relationships.
- Supporting their children through their personal development and the emotional and physical aspects of growing up.
- Ensuring that they are aware of aspects of the curriculum, including when it is going to be delivered and the content.
- Supporting their children's personal, social and emotional development, by working with the school to create an open home environment where pupils can engage, discuss and continue to learn about matters that have been raised through school PSHE.
- Seeking additional support in this from the school where they feel it is needed.

3. Organisation of the curriculum

Every primary school is required to deliver statutory relationships education and health education. The delivery of the relationships education, health education and sex education coincide with one another and will be delivered as part of the school's PSHE curriculum. Our curriculum is taught in a considered sequential approach to ensure pupils are supported to develop healthy behaviour and relationship skills. This ensures our children are well equipped with knowledge to navigate different experiences in a positive way.

For the purpose of this policy:

- "**Relationships education**" is defined as teaching pupils about healthy, respectful relationships, focussing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online.
- "**Health education**" is defined as teaching pupils about physical health and mental wellbeing, focussing on recognising the link between the two and being able to make healthy lifestyle choices.
- "**Sex education**" is defined as teaching pupils about developing healthy sexuality, and will cover issues, beyond those covered in the science and health curricula, that will be determined in response to the needs of the relevant cohort.

The relationships health and sex education curriculum takes into account the views of teachers, pupils and parents. The school has organised a curriculum that is appropriate for the age and developmental stages of pupils within each year group. When organising the curriculum, the religious backgrounds of all pupils will be considered, so that the topics that are covered are taught appropriately.

The school is dedicated to ensuring our curriculum meets the needs of the whole-school community; therefore, the curriculum is informed by issues in the school and wider community to ensure it is tailored to pupils' needs. For example, if there were to be a local prevalence of specific sexually transmitted infections, our curriculum would be tailored to address this issue.

The school will consult with parents, pupils and staff in the following ways:

- Questionnaires and surveys
- Focus groups
- Meetings
- Training sessions
- Newsletters and letters

Any parent, teacher or pupil wishing to provide feedback about the curriculum can do so at any time during the academic year by:

- Organising a meeting with relevant members of staff
- Emailing office@backworthparkprimary.org.uk
- Submitting written feedback into the letter box located outside of the main entrance

4. Consultation with parents and engagement with pupils

The school understands the important role parents play in enhancing their children's understanding of relationships and health and how important parents' views are in shaping the curriculum. The school will provide parents with frequent opportunities to understand and ask questions about the school's approach to RSHE.

The school will consult closely with parents when reviewing the content of the school's RSHE curriculum and will give them regular opportunities to voice their opinions. The school will use the views of parents to inform decisions made about the curriculum content and delivery; however, parents will not be granted a 'veto' on curriculum content, and all final decisions will be made by school. The school will permit parents access to all curriculum materials and the school will not enter into contracts with outside providers that seek to prevent parents from seeing materials.

Parents will be provided with the following information:

- The content of the relationships, health and sex education curriculum
- The delivery of the relationships, health and sex education curriculum, including what is taught in each year group
- The legalities surrounding withdrawing their child from the subjects
- The resources that will be used to support the curriculum

The school will work closely with parents in reviewing the sex education curriculum and will consult with them with regard to what is covered.

The school aims to build positive relationships with parents by inviting them into school to discuss what will be taught, address any concerns, and help parents in managing conversations with their children on the issues covered by the curriculum. Parents will also be consulted in the review of this policy and encouraged to provide their views at any time.

The curriculum is informed by the views and needs of the children.

- Children will have regular opportunities to contribute their views and ideas relating to RSHE issues.

- Children will be consulted on topics covered within RSHE to ensure the curriculum is relevant.
- How children prefer to learn will be considered to ensure lessons are engaging.

5. Relationships education overview

Families and people who care for me

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That families are important for them growing up because they can give love, security and stability.
- The characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives.
- That others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care.
- That stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up.
- That marriage and civil partnership represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong.
- How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.

Caring friendships

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.
- That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded. Pupils should learn skills for developing caring, kind friendships.
- That not every child will have the friends they would like at all times, that most people feel lonely sometimes, and that there is no shame in feeling lonely or talking about it.
- The characteristics of friendships that lead to happiness and security, including mutual respect, honesty, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences, and support with problems and difficulties.
- That most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened.
- How to manage conflict, and that resorting to violence is never right.
- How to recognise when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, and how to get support when needed.

Respectful relationships

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- How to pay attention to the needs and preferences of others, including in families and friendships. Pupils should be encouraged to discuss how we balance the needs and wishes of different people in relationships and why this can be complicated.

- The importance of setting and respecting healthy boundaries in relationships with friends, family, peers and adults.
- How to communicate effectively and manage conflict with kindness and respect; how to be assertive and express needs and boundaries; how to manage feelings, including disappointment and frustration.
- Pupils should have opportunities to discuss the difference between being assertive and being controlling, and conversely the difference between being kind to other people and neglecting your own needs.
- That they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and the importance of respecting others, including those who are different (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices, or have different preferences or beliefs.
- Practical steps they can take and skills they can develop in a range of different contexts to improve or support their relationships.
- The conventions of courtesy and manners.
- The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness. Pupils should have opportunities to think about how they foster their own self-esteem and build a strong sense of their own identity, including through developing skills and interests.
- The different types of bullying (including online bullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult), and how to get help.
- What a stereotype is, how stereotypes can be unfair, negative, destructive or lead to bullying and how to challenge a stereotype.
- How to seek help when needed, including when they are concerned about violence, harm, or when they are unsure who to trust

Online relationships

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That people should be respectful in online interactions, and that the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including where people are anonymous. For example, the importance of avoiding putting pressure on others to share information and images online, and strategies for resisting peer pressure.
- How to critically evaluate their online relationships and sources of information, including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met. For example, that people sometimes behave differently online, including pretending to be someone else, or pretending to be a child, and that this can lead to dangerous situations. How to recognise harmful content or harmful contact, and how to report this.
- That there is a minimum age for joining social media sites (currently 13), which protects children from inappropriate content or unsafe contact with older social media users, who may be strangers, including other children and adults.
- The importance of exercising caution about sharing any information about themselves online. Understanding the importance of privacy and location settings to protect information online.
- Online risks, including that any material provided online might be circulated, and that once a picture or words has been circulated there is no way of deleting it everywhere and no control over where it ends up.
- That the internet contains a lot of content that can be inappropriate and upsetting for children, and where to go for advice and support when they feel worried or concerned about something they have seen or engaged with online.

Being safe

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including online). This can include learning about boundaries in play and in negotiations about space, toys, books, resources etc.
- The concept of privacy and its implications for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe.
- That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe contact, including physical contact.
- How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online), including those they do and do not know.
- How to recognise when a relationship is harmful or dangerous, including skills for recognising who to trust and who not to trust.
- How to report abuse, concerns about something seen online or experienced in real life, or feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so.
- How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard. Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources.

6. Relationships education per key stage

The school is free to determine, within the statutory curriculum content outlined in the ['Relationships education overview'](#) section, what pupils are taught during each year group.

The school always considers the age and development of pupils when deciding what will be taught in each year group. The school implements a progressive curriculum, in which topics are built upon prior knowledge taught in previous years as pupils progress through school, with a view to providing a smooth transition to secondary school.

By the end of EYFS children will have learned:

- ✓ feeling confident to play/work with a range of different children and adults
- ✓ becoming more aware of other adults in our school and their role within our school
- ✓ discussing conflicts and thinking of ways to overcome problems such as sharing and kind hands
- ✓ talking about similarities and differences with our peers and being respectful
- ✓ discuss families and celebrate each other
- ✓ know that friendships make us happy

By the end of KS1 children will have learned:

- ✓ to communicate feelings to others and recognise how they respond
- ✓ to recognise that their behaviour can affect others
- ✓ the difference between secrets and nice surprises/not keeping secrets that make you feel scared/uncomfortable
- ✓ recognise what is fair/unfair/right/wrong
- ✓ share their opinions and explain their views
- ✓ listen to others and work cooperatively
- ✓ offers support and feedback to others
- ✓ identify and respect similarities and differences between people
- ✓ to identify their special people and why they are special and how special people care for one another
- ✓ to judge what physical contact is acceptable and how to respond
- ✓ that people's bodies and feelings can be hurt
- ✓ to recognise when people are being unkind to them or others and how to respond
- ✓ to recognise different types of teasing and bullying and know why they are wrong

- ✓ how to deal with bullying—who to go to and how to get help
- ✓ how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends
- ✓ healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded.
- ✓ the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs.

By the end of KS2 children will have learned:

- ✓ to judge what kind of physical contact is acceptable or unacceptable and how to respond
- ✓ about the difference between, and the terms associated with, sex, gender identity and sexual orientation.
- ✓ how to recognise bullying and abuse in all its forms (including prejudice-based bullying both in person, online and through social media)
- ✓ that forcing anyone to marry is a crime; that support is available to protect and prevent people from being forced into marriage and to know how to get support for them self or others
- ✓ that marriage is a commitment freely entered into by both people, that no one should marry if they don't absolutely want to do so or are not making this decision freely for themselves
- ✓ that differences and similarities between people arise from a number of factors, including family, cultural, ethnic, racial and religious diversity, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, and disability (see 'protected characteristics' in the Equality Act 2010)
- ✓ to realise the nature and consequences of discrimination, teasing, bullying and aggressive behaviours (including cyber bullying, use of prejudice-based language, 'trolling', how to respond and ask for help)
- ✓ the characteristics of a good friend.
- ✓ how to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed
- ✓ to recognise and challenge stereotypes.
- ✓ the importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults
- ✓ that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
- ✓ have an awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
- ✓ the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to- face relationships, we should show respect for others online including when we are anonymous.

7. Health education overview

The focus of health education at primary level is teaching the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing.

General wellbeing

By the end of primary school pupils will know:

- The benefits of physical activity, time outdoors, and helping others for health, wellbeing and happiness. Simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family, as well as hobbies, interests and community participation.
- The importance of promoting general wellbeing and physical health.
- The range and scale of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) that they might experience in different situations. Pupils should understand that worrying and feeling down are normal, affect everyone at different times, and are not in themselves a sign of a mental health condition.

- How to recognise feelings and use varied vocabulary to talk about their own and others' feelings.
- How to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate.
- That isolation and loneliness can affect children, and the benefits of seeking support.
- That bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental wellbeing and how to seek help for themselves or others.
- That change and loss, including bereavement, can provoke a range of feelings, that grief is a natural response to bereavement, and that everyone grieves differently.
- Where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for seeking support), including who in school they should speak to if they are worried about their own or someone else's mental wellbeing or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online). 10. That it is common to experience mental health problems, and early support can help. Internet safety and harms

Wellbeing online

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That for almost everyone the internet is an integral part of life. Pupils should be supported to think about positive and negative aspects of the internet.
- Pupils should be supported to discuss how online relationships can complement and support meaningful in-person relationships, but also how they might be in tension, and the reasons why online relationships are unlikely to be a good substitute for high quality in-person relationships, looking at the pros and cons of different ways of using online connection.
- The benefits of limiting time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical wellbeing.
- How to consider the impact of their online behaviour on others, and how to recognise and display respectful behaviour online.
- Why social media, some apps, computer games and online gaming, including gambling sites, are age restricted.
- The risks relating to online gaming, video game monetisation, scams, fraud and other financial harms, and that gaming can become addictive.
- How to take a critical approach to what they see and read online and make responsible decisions about which content, including content on social media and apps, is appropriate for them.
- That abuse, bullying and harassment can take place online and that this can impact wellbeing. How to seek support from trusted adults.
- How to understand the information they find online, including from search engines, and know how information is selected and targeted.
- That they have rights in relation to sharing personal data, privacy and consent. 11. Where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online.

Physical health and fitness

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- The characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle.
- The importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this, for example by walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile, or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise.
- The risks associated with an inactive lifestyle, including obesity.

- How and when to seek support, including which adults to speak to in school, if they are worried about their health.

Healthy eating

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- What constitutes a healthy diet (including understanding calories and other nutritional content).
- Understanding the importance of a healthy relationship with food.
- The principles of planning and preparing a range of healthy meals.
- The characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating (including, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health).

Drugs, alcohol and tobacco

- The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, vaping, alcohol use and drug-taking. This should include the risks of nicotine addiction, which are also caused by other nicotine products such as nicotine pouches.

Health and prevention

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- How to recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss, or unexplained changes to the body.
- About safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer.
- The importance of sufficient good quality sleep for health, the amount of sleep recommended for their age, and practical steps for improving sleep, such as not using screens in the bedroom. The impact of poor sleep on weight, mood and ability to learn.
- About dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene, including brushing teeth twice a day with fluoride toothpaste, cleaning between teeth, and regular checkups at the dentist.
- About personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of handwashing.
- The facts and scientific evidence relating to vaccination and immunisation. The introduction of topics relating to vaccination and immunisation should be aligned with when vaccinations are offered to pupils.

Personal Safety

- About hazards (including fire risks) that may cause harm, injury or risk and ways to reduce risks.
- How to recognise risk and keep safe around roads, railways, including level crossings, and water, including the water safety code.

Basic first aid

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- How to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary, including the importance of reporting incidents rather than filming them.
- Concepts of basic first aid, for example dealing with common injuries and ailments, including head injuries...

Changing adolescent body

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- Key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes. The human lifecycle, and puberty should be discussed as a stage in this process
- The correct names of body parts, including the penis, vulva, vagina, testicles, scrotum, nipples. Pupils should understand that all of these parts of the body are private and have skills to understand and express their own boundaries around these body parts.
- About menstrual wellbeing and key facts relating to the menstrual cycle.

8. Health education per key stage

The school is free to determine, within the statutory curriculum content outlined in '[Health education overview](#)' section, what pupils are taught during each year group.

The school always considers the age and development of pupils when deciding what will be taught in each year group. The school implements a progressive curriculum, in which topics are built upon prior knowledge taught in previous years as pupils progress through school, with a view to providing a smooth transition to secondary school.

By the end of EYFS children will have learned:

- ✓ settling into school life comfortably and feeling safe
- ✓ new routines
- ✓ new friendships, talking through kind actions
- ✓ setting rules and expectations with children
- ✓ discussing hygiene in terms of toileting/ washing hands
- ✓ hygiene routines linked to lunch/ washing hands, handling food/ clearing away
- ✓ physical exercise linked to PE discussing the importance of movement and what changes we can see in our body (heart beating faster, feeling warm)
- ✓ how to respond safely and appropriately to adults we come in contact with including adults we do not know, including online

By the end of KS1 children will have learned:

- ✓ recognise what they like/dislike and make informed choices to improve physical and emotional health
- ✓ to think about themselves, learn from experiences, celebrate strengths and set challenging goals
- ✓ the importance of personal hygiene
- ✓ how diseases spread and can be controlled/how they have a responsibility to their own health and simple skills to help diseases spread
- ✓ growing and changing and the responsibilities independence can bring
- ✓ the names of main body parts/similarities and differences between boys and girls
- ✓ household products and medicines can be harmful
- ✓ keeping physically and emotionally safe online/road/cycle/rail etc
- ✓ people who look after them-who to go to if they are worried
- ✓ how people who look after them can protect them
- ✓ their responsibility for keeping themselves and others safe-who to tell/what to say/not keeping secret
- ✓ rules and principles for keeping safe online.

By the end of KS2 children will have learned:

- ✓ what positively and negatively affects their physical, mental and emotional health
- ✓ to recognise how images in the media (and online) do not always reflect reality and can affect how people feel about themselves
- ✓ about change, including transitions (between key stages and schools), loss, separation, divorce and bereavement
- ✓ which, why and how, commonly available substances and drugs (including alcohol, tobacco, vapes and 'energy drinks') can damage their immediate and future health and safety; that some are restricted and some are illegal to own, use and give to others
- ✓ about taking care of their body, understanding that they have the right to protect their body from inappropriate and unwanted contact;
- ✓ the responsible use of mobile phones: safe keeping (looking after it) and safe user habits (time limits, use of passcode, turning it off at night etc.)
- ✓ how to manage requests for images of themselves or others; what is and is not appropriate to ask for or share; who to talk to if they feel uncomfortable or are concerned by such a request
- ✓ how information and data is shared and used online
- ✓ how to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult.
- ✓ how to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so.
- ✓ where to get advice
- ✓ how to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if needed and the concepts of basic first aid.

9. Sex education

All pupils must be taught the aspects of sex education outlined in the primary science curriculum – this includes teaching about the main external parts of the human body, how it changes as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty, and the reproductive process in some plants and animals.

The school is free to determine whether pupils should be taught sex education beyond what is required of the national curriculum. At our school, we do teach pupils sex education beyond what is required of the science curriculum.

Parents are fully consulted in the organisation and delivery of our sex education curriculum, in accordance with the '[Organisation of the curriculum](#)' and '[Consultation with parents](#)' sections of this policy. Parents are given the opportunity to advise on what should be taught through sex education.

The age and development of pupils is always considered when delivering sex education.

Reception

- ✓ Understand hygiene in terms of toileting/ washing hands
- ✓ Establish hygiene routines linked to lunch/ washing hands, handling food/ clearing away

Year 1

- ✓ Correct scientific vocabulary of all body parts
- ✓ Know how to keep oneself clean and look after oneself
- ✓ Know the differences between boy and girl babies
- ✓ Know which people we can ask for help

Year 2

- ✓ Animals, including humans, have male and female offspring
- ✓ Talk about the ways boys and girls can be the same and different
- ✓ Describe some differences between male and female animals and name

Year 3

- ✓ Name male and female body parts, using technical vocabulary
- ✓ Talk about ways of dealing with unwanted behaviours
- ✓ Identify who to go to for help and support

Year 4

- ✓ Describe the body changes that happen when a child grows up, understand why the body changes during puberty and know that each person experiences puberty differently

Year 5

- ✓ Ask questions about puberty confidently
- ✓ Describe how to manage physical and emotional changes
- ✓ Know how to get help and support during puberty

Year 6

- ✓ Describe how and why the body changes during puberty in preparation for reproduction
- ✓ Explain how babies are made and describe the decisions that have to be made before having a baby

10. Delivery of the curriculum

The relationships and health curriculum will be delivered as part of our PSHE curriculum.

The school will ensure that keeping children safe and preventative education remain at the heart of PSHE subjects.

Sex education will be delivered through the science curriculum and the PSHE curriculum.

Through effective organisation and delivery of the subject, the school will ensure that:

- Core knowledge is sectioned into units of manageable size.
- The required content is communicated to pupils clearly, in a carefully sequenced way, within a planned scheme of work.
- Teaching includes sufficient and well-chosen opportunities and contexts for pupils to embed new knowledge so that it can be used confidently in real-life situations.

The curriculum is delivered proactively, such that it addresses issues in a timely way in line with current evidence on children's physical, emotional development. The school will ensure that all teaching and materials are appropriate for the ages of the pupils, their religious backgrounds, their developmental stages and any additional needs, such as SEND. Lesson plans will provide appropriate challenge for pupils and be differentiated for pupils' needs.

Curriculum organisation

Pupils will receive their entitlement for learning PSHE through a spiral curriculum which demonstrates progression. The RHE programme is delivered through a variety of opportunities including:

- Designated PSHE time
- Use of external agencies and/or services
- School ethos
- Small group work
- Cross curricular links
- Assemblies
- Enrichment days and weeks
- Residential trips

Terminology

In recognition of the fact that the use of code names for body parts can facilitate the normalisation of child sexual abuse, teaching staff will use and teach pupils the anatomically correct names for body parts.

Dealing with difficult questions

The school will support teaching staff to feel comfortable to answer questions from pupils, by providing regular CPD training in how to deliver sex education, including sessions on confidentiality, setting ground rules, handling controversial issues, responding to 'awkward' questions and an introduction to the rationale of why teaching RHE is so important. The school will encourage teaching staff to refer questions they feel ill-equipped to answer to the RHE subject leader for advice or support in handling the question.

Teachers will stop full class discussions where pupils begin to reveal personal, private information related to sensitive issues. If teachers feel concerned about anything shared by a pupil, they will follow the appropriate response as laid out in the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

The programme will be designed to incorporate all pupils, and activities will be planned to ensure all are actively involved.

Teachers will focus heavily on the importance of healthy relationships, though sensitivity will always be given as to not stigmatise pupils based on their home circumstances.

Whilst there are no formal examinations for the relationships and health curriculum, the school will undertake informal assessments to determine pupil progress – these include the following:

- Written assignments
- Group presentations
- Group tasks
- Projects

II. Working with external experts

The school may invite guest speakers into school to talk on issues related to RHE, e.g. an expert or experienced health professional who can challenge pupil's perceptions. A teacher will be present throughout these lessons.

Visitors will be given a copy of this policy and expected to comply with the guidelines outlined within it. All resources used by guest speakers will be available to parents to view prior to lesson delivery.

Before delivering the session, the school will:

- Ensure the lesson the external expert has planned fits with the school's planned curriculum and this policy.
- Ensure the expert's credentials are checked before they are able to participate in delivery of the curriculum, in line with the Visitor Policy.
- Discuss the details of the expert's lesson plan and ensure that the content is age-appropriate and accessible for the pupils.
- Ask to see the materials the expert intends to use, as well as a copy of the lesson plan, to ensure it meets all pupils' needs, including those with SEND.
- Agree with the expert the procedures for confidentiality, ensuring that the expert understands how safeguarding reports should be dealt with in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

12. Equality and accessibility

The school understands its responsibilities in relation to the Equality Act 2010; specifically, that it must not unlawfully discriminate against any pupil based on their protected characteristics.

The school is committed to making reasonable adjustments wherever possible to promote accessibility and inclusivity of the curriculum. The school will ensure that RHE programme is inclusive, and caters to the needs, of pupils with SEND or other support needs, such as those with SEMH needs.

Teachers will understand that they may need to adapt their planning of work and teaching methods in order to appropriately deliver the programme to pupils with SEND or other support needs.

Provisions under the Equality Act 2010 allow our school to take positive action, where it can be evidenced to be proportionate, to respond to particular disadvantages affecting a group because of a protected characteristic. For example, we could consider taking positive action to support girls if there was evidence that they were being disproportionately subjected to sexual violence or sexual harassment.

When deciding whether support is necessary to support pupils with a particular protected characteristic, we will consider our pupils' needs, including the gender and age range of our pupils.

In order to foster healthy and respectful peer-to-peer communication and behaviour between all pupils, the school implements a robust Behaviour Policy, as well as a Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, which sets out expectations of pupils.

The school understands that RHE may include topics which are triggers for teaching staff, and could relate to historic, recent, or current trauma. If this is the case, the school encourages staff to approach their line manager or the wellbeing lead to discuss this.

13. Curriculum links

The school seeks opportunities to draw links between RHE and other curriculum subjects wherever possible to enhance pupils' learning. RHE will be linked to the following subjects in particular:

- **Science** – pupils learn about the main external parts of the body and changes to the body as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty.
- **Computing and ICT** – pupils learn about e-safety, including how to use technology safely, responsibly, respectfully and securely, how to keep personal information private and how to access help and support.

- PE – pupils explore various physical activities, are physically active for sustained periods of time, engage in competitive sport and understand how exercise can lead to healthier lifestyles.
- **Citizenship** – pupils learn about the requirements of the law, their responsibilities and the possible consequences of their actions.
- PSHE – pupils learn about respect and difference, values and characteristics of individuals.

14. Withdrawing from the subjects

RHE are statutory at primary and parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from the subjects.

As sex education is not statutory at primary level, other than what must be taught as part of the science curriculum, parents have the right to request to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex education curriculum.

The headteacher will automatically grant a parent's request to withdraw their child from sex education, other than the content that must be taught as part of the science curriculum; however, the headteacher will discuss the request with the parent and, if appropriate, their child, to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum. The headteacher will discuss with the parent, the benefits of receiving this important education and any adverse effects that withdrawal may have on the pupil – this could include, for example, social and emotional effects of being excluded.

The headteacher will keep a record of the discussion between themselves, the pupil and the parent. The parent will be informed in writing of the headteacher's decision.

Where a pupil is withdrawn from sex education, the headteacher will ensure that the pupil receives appropriate alternative education.

15. Behaviour

The school aims to foster a culture based on mutual respect and understanding for one another, and as such, has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying. Any bullying incidents caused as a result of the RHE programme, such as those relating to sexual orientation, will be dealt with as seriously as other bullying incidents within the school. Any occurrence of these incidents will be reported to a member of school staff, who will then discipline the pupil once they are on school premises. These incidents will be dealt with following the processes in our Behaviour Policy and Anti-bullying Policy.

The headteacher will decide whether it is appropriate to notify the police or an anti-social behaviour coordinator in their LA of the action taken against a pupil.

16. Staff training

All staff members at the school will undergo regular training to ensure they are up-to-date with the RHE programme and associated issues, to ensure they are fully equipped to teach the subjects effectively.

Training of staff will also be scheduled around any updated guidance on the programme and any new developments, such as 'sexting', which may need to be addressed in relation to the programme.

17. Confidentiality

The school will aim to provide a safe and supportive school community where pupils feel comfortable seeking help and guidance on anything that may be concerning them about life either at school or at home. Training around confidentiality will be provided to all teachers.

It may be the case that discussion around what is acceptable and not acceptable in relationships may lead to the disclosure of a child protection issue. If this is the case, the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy should be followed.

Pupils will be informed prior to delivery of RHE lessons that confidentiality will remain unless school staff feel that a child is at risk of harm. This information will need to be passed on to the DSL and the pupils will be informed of the procedure. Staff who breach the right to a child's privacy by disclosing or sharing confidential information with no reason to do so will be dealt with under the school's Disciplinary Policy and Procedure.

18. Quality of education

The RHE subject leader is responsible for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning for the subjects. They will conduct subject assessments on a termly basis, which will include a mixture of the following:

- Lesson observations
- Learning walks
- Book looks
- Pupil voice

The RHE subject leader will work regularly and consistently with the headteacher and RHE link governor to evaluate the effectiveness of the subjects and implement any changes.

19. Monitoring and review

The governing board is responsible for approving this policy.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. The next scheduled review date for this policy is September 2026. This policy will also be reviewed in light of any changes to statutory guidance; feedback from parents, staff or pupils; and issues in the school or local area that may need addressing.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all staff, parents and, where necessary, pupils.