



SEX and Relationships Education Policy

REVIEW DATE	SEPTEMBER 2024
NEXT REVIEW DATE	SEPTEMBER 2025

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

Introduction

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is lifelong learning about emotions, relationships, sexual health, and personal well-being. Effective SRE should be mindful of young people's early experiences, development, and expressed needs. It should provide consistent, accurate, and age-appropriate information, helping young people build confidence and make informed decisions as they transition from childhood to adulthood.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the approach to delivering SRE, ensuring it aligns with the ethos and values of our school, and to comply with legal requirements as set out in relevant legislation.

Legal Framework and Guidance

- **Education Act 1996**
- **Learning & Skills Act 2000**
- **Children and Social Work Act 2017**
- **Equality Act 2010**
- **Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory Guidance (DfE, 2019)**
- **Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE, 2024)**

All schools are legally required to provide SRE. The statutory guidance emphasizes that all pupils must learn about the physical and emotional aspects of growing up, including puberty, consent, contraception, and the law as it applies to relationships and sexual health.

Core Principles of SRE

Our SRE program aims to:

1. Provide ongoing, truthful, and non-judgmental information in a relaxed and confidential setting.
2. Encourage informed decision-making and respect for oneself and others.
3. Promote understanding of safe and healthy relationships, including awareness of consent.
4. Integrate the ethos and values of the school community.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

SRE is integral to safeguarding pupils by teaching them to recognize and manage risks, understand consent, and develop healthy relationships. Our policy aligns with the latest **Keeping Children Safe in Education** guidelines and the **Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation**.

- FGM Awareness: Educating pupils and staff about the risks associated with Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), particularly during high-risk periods (e.g., summer holidays).
- Sexual Exploitation: Addressing the risks of grooming, online exploitation, and abuse.

Equality and Inclusion

The program is inclusive of all pupils, considering their diverse backgrounds, identities, and experiences. This includes:

- Promoting understanding and respect for LGBT+ communities.
- Ensuring SRE is delivered in a way that does not subject pupils to discrimination (per the **Equality Act 2010**).
- Providing additional support for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) through tailored content and resources.

Program Structure

The RSE curriculum comprises three key components:

1. Information Acquisition:

- Understanding puberty, sexual development, sexual health, and reproduction.
- The emotional, social, and legal aspects of relationships.
- Information on contraception, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and HIV/AIDS.

2. Skill Development:

- Emotional skills: managing emotions, empathy, and resilience.
- Social skills: building healthy relationships, communication, and negotiation.
- Practical skills: accessing support, making informed decisions, and recognizing peer pressure.

3. Attitude and Values Exploration:

- Developing a positive moral framework for decision-making.
- Challenging stereotypes and addressing prejudice, discrimination, and bullying.
- Understanding the responsibilities of intimate relationships, including consent.

Delivery of RSE

- RSE will be delivered through PSHE, science, and dedicated curriculum sessions, utilizing a mix of formal lessons, group discussions, and one-to-one support.
- Sessions will be facilitated by trained staff members, with external professionals involved where necessary.
- Content will be age-appropriate, culturally sensitive, and respectful of pupils' varying needs.

Resources:

- Age-appropriate, up-to-date materials free from stereotypes.
- Diverse and inclusive representation of young people in teaching resources.
- Active learning methods encouraging participation and engagement.

Parental Involvement and Rights

- Parents/carers have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from non-statutory aspects of SRE up until three terms before the child turns 16.
- A clear communication channel will be established to inform parents of the SRE curriculum, allowing for feedback and consultation.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- SRE delivery will be reviewed annually, with feedback from students, parents, and staff.
- The program will be assessed through lesson observations, surveys, and evaluations to ensure continuous improvement.