

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

ST MARY'S LEWISHAM CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our Vision

To be a learning community that promotes the unique gifts, wellbeing and potential of every person. Our work is founded on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, building on His message of equality, peace and justice, guided by His words *'As I have loved you, so you must love one another' (John 13:34)*.

Through our Relationship and Sex Education Policy, we will promote the school vision and develop equality and justice. We aim to ensure that the unique gifts, wellbeing and potential of every child are fulfilled.

We will do this by:

- Developing children's social, cultural, emotional and relationships as well as diversity and personal identity
- Developing a school community where unity and positive attitudes towards diversity is celebrated
- Ensuring that we work in close partnership with parents, carers and other stakeholders to tackle bullying based on race, religion, gender, disability, sexuality or poverty
- Ensuring that our school values are embedded and part of the ethos and school life

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1. Aims

The aims of relationship and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Provide pupils with the knowledge, understanding, attitudes, values and skills they need in order to reach their potential as individuals and within the community
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to the life of their school and communities
- Help pupils to reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Pupils will learn to respect our common humanity; diversity and differences so that they can go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Prevent and tackle bullying

2. Statutory requirements

RSE is not compulsory in primary school but will become compulsory from September 2020. However, primary schools are required to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

If primary schools do teach RSE, they must have regard to guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996. This policy is informed by existing DfE guidance on Sex and Relationships Education (Sex and Relationship Education Guidance, July 2000), Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies, July 2013), Drug and Alcohol Education (DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools: Advice for local authorities, head teachers, school staff and governing bodies, September 2012), safeguarding (Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, March 2013 and Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2015)) and equality (Equality Act 2010: Advice for school leaders, school staff, governing bodies and local authorities, revised February 2013).

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review – a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Staff consultation – all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy
4. Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

4. Definition

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.

RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

5. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

5.1 Jigsaw Content (see appendix 1 & 2 for content and structure)

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase, as show in appendix 1 & 2.

5.2 Objectives/Pupil learning intentions

Jigsaw PSHE will support the development of the skills, attitudes, values and behaviour, which enable pupils to:

- Have a sense of purpose
- Value self and others
- Form relationships
- Make and act on informed decisions
- Communicate effectively
- Work with others
- Respond to challenge
- Be an active partner in their own learning
- Be active citizens within the local community
- Explore issues related to living in a democratic society
- Become healthy and fulfilled individuals

6. Roles and responsibilities

6.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RSE policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation. The governing board will hold the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy. The governing board has delegated the approval of this policy to resources committee.

6.2 The Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from components of RSE (see section 7).

6.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- 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 RSE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher.

6.4 Pupils

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

7. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents' have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of RSE.

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

8. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar. The headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

9. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the PSHCE coordinator through:

- Learning walks
- Lesson observations
- Pupil voice
- Questionnaires
- Teacher evaluation

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by PSHCE coordinator every 2 years. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board or resources committee.

Approved by: Resources Committee	Date:
Last reviewed: March 2023	Next review due by: March 2025

Appendix 1

Whole School Overview

Term	Puzzle Name	Content
Autumn 1	Being Me in My World	Includes understanding my place in the class, school and global community as well as devising Learning Charters
Autumn 2	Celebrating Difference	Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and diversity work
Spring 1	Dreams and Goals	Includes goal-setting, aspirations, working together to design and organise fund-raising events
Spring 2	Healthy Me	Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices
Summer 1	Relationships	Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills
Summer 2	Changing Me	Includes Sex and Relationship Education in the context of looking at change

Appendix 2

Jigsaw RSE Content - The grid below shows specific RSE learning intentions for each year group in the 'Changing Me' Puzzle.

Year Group	Piece Number and Name	Learning Intentions 'Pupils will be able to ...'
1	Piece 4	'Boys' and Girls' Bodies identify the parts of the body that make boys different to girls and use the correct names for these: penis, testicles, vagina
2	Piece 4	Respect my body and understand which parts are private Boys' and Girls' Bodies Recognise the physical differences between boys and girls, use the correct names for parts of the body (penis, testicles, vagina) and appreciate that some parts of my body are private
3	Piece 1	Tell you what I like/don't like about being a boy/girl How Babies Grow understand that in animals and humans lots of changes happen between conception and growing up, and that usually it is the female who has the baby express how I feel when I see babies or baby animals
	Piece 2	Express how I feel when I see babies or baby animals Understand how babies grow and develop in the mother's uterus and understand what a baby needs to live and grow
	Piece 3 Outside Body Changes	Express how I might feel if I had a new baby in my family Understand that boys' and girls' bodies need to change so that when they grow up their bodies can make babies Identify how boys' and girls' bodies change on the outside during this growing up process Recognise how I feel about these changes happening to me and know how to cope with those feelings
	Piece 4 Inside Body Changes	Identify how boys' and girls' bodies change on the inside during the growing up process and why these changes are necessary so that their bodies can make babies when they grow up Recognise how I feel about these changes happening to me and how to cope with these feelings
4	Piece 2 Having A Baby	Correctly label the internal and external parts of male and female bodies that are necessary for making a baby

	Piece 3 Girls and Puberty	Understand that having a baby is a personal choice and express how I feel about having children when I am an adult describe how a girl's body changes in order for her to be able to have babies when she is an adult, and that menstruation (having periods) is a natural part of this know that I have strategies to help me cope with the physical and emotional changes I will experience during puberty
5	Piece 2 Puberty for Girls	Explain how a girl's body changes during puberty and understand the importance of looking after myself physically and emotionally Understand that puberty is a natural process that happens to everybody and that it will be OK for me
	Piece 3 Puberty for Boys and Girls	Describe how boys' and girls' bodies change during puberty Express how I feel about the changes that will happen to me during puberty
	Piece 4 Conception	Understand that sexual intercourse can lead to conception and that is how babies are usually made Understand that sometimes people need IVF to help them have a baby appreciate how amazing it is that human bodies can reproduce in these ways
6	Piece 2 Puberty	Explain how girls' and boys' bodies change during puberty and understand the importance of looking after myself physically and emotionally Express how I feel about the changes that will happen to me during puberty
	Piece 3 Girl Talk/Boy Talk	Ask the questions I need answered about changes during puberty Reflect on how I feel about asking the questions and about the answers I receive
	Piece 4 Babies – Conception to Birth	Describe how a baby develops from conception through the nine months of pregnancy, and how it is born Recognise how I feel when I reflect on the development and birth of a baby
	Piece 5 Attraction	Understand how being physically attracted to someone changes the nature of the relationship Express how I feel about the growing independence of becoming a teenager and am confident that I can cope with this

The Equality Act 2010 covers the way the curriculum is delivered, as schools and other education providers must ensure that issues are taught in a way that does not subject pupils to discrimination. Schools have a duty under the Equality Act to ensure that teaching is accessible to all children and young people, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT). Inclusive RSE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice – including homophobia – and promote understanding and respect. The Department for Education have produced advice on The Equality Act 2010 and schools (DfE 2014b).

Schools have a legal duty to promote equality (Equality Act 2010) and to combat bullying (Education Act, 2006) (which includes homophobic, sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying) and Section 4.2 of the national curriculum (2014) states “Teachers should take account of their duties under equal opportunities legislation that covers race, disability, sex, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.