

Walton on the Hill Primary School

Relationship & Sex Education (RSE) Policy



What is RSE?

Relationships Education will put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships, including with family, friends and online. Your child will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them. In an age-appropriate way, your child's school will cover how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect. RSE includes Sex Education at an age-appropriate level and is taught in line with the Science national curriculum.

We want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe, and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. These subjects are designed to equip your child with knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as preparing them for a successful adult life.

RSE forms a key part of our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education curriculum and is overseen by our PSHE leader.

Aims

The aims for the RSE curriculum are embedded within our whole school values of Collaboration, Resilience, Equality, Compassion, Creativity and Innovation, and Exploration, as well as our curriculum vision:

At Walton on the Hill we aim to offer a rich and engaging school experience in which children are willing partners in their own learning. They enjoy school, form friendships for life and become responsible, respectful young people. Our curriculum is diverse, thought-provoking, creative, inspirational and soaked in memorable moments.

More specifically, the aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

Statutory Requirements

From September 2020, Relationship and Health Education became a statutory part of the curriculum. As a maintained primary school we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

However, we are not required to provide sex education but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RSE, we must have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

At Walton on the Hill Primary School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

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 – our PSHE leader pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance and engaged in a series of online training modules developed by the Department for Education

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 comment on our RSE curriculum and policy
4. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

Curriculum

As a school we follow the SCARF programme to plan and deliver our PSHE curriculum which aligns to the PSHE Association programme of study, the National Curriculum and meets the new DfE statutory requirements. It consists of 6 core themes: Me and My Relationships, Valuing Difference, Keeping Myself Safe, Rights and Responsibilities, Being My Best, Growing and Changing. The long term curriculum plan can be found on our school website.

Primary sex education will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

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) and computing (online safety)

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional.

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst other structures) along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

Roles and responsibilities

The governing body will:

- Approve the RSE policy
- Hold the headteacher to account for its implementation

The headteacher is responsible for:

Global School Vision - Village School Values
Respect - Rights - Responsibilities

- Ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school
- Managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of RSE

School 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.

All class teachers are responsible for delivering the RSE curriculum content to their year group. The RSE leader, Mrs Romero (Mrs Kirsty Romero is acting RSE leader), will monitor and evaluate the planning and delivery of RSE, and offer support to teachers where needed.

Pupils are expected to:

- Engage fully in RSE
- Treat others with respect and sensitivity

Parents' right to withdraw

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

The science curriculum in all maintained schools includes content on human development, including puberty and body changes which there is no right to withdraw from.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Sex Education and should make a request to the headteacher if they do not wish for their child to take part in the lesson.

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 as appropriate, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by Kirsty Romero (PSHE leader) through:

- Learning walks
- Book monitoring
- Pupil voice
- Staff and parent feedback

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

This policy will be reviewed by Kirsty Romero (RSE leader) annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.

Policy written by: Kirsty Romero