



# Policy

## Relationships and Sex Education

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This policy has been written with regard to the guidance ‘Working together to safeguard children’, ‘Keeping children safe in education’ and the ‘Special Education Needs Code of Practice’, which places Special Education Needs and Disabilities together and abbreviated to SEND. A copy can be seen in the Headteacher’s Office.

The overall objective of the school’s Equality Policy, in line with the Equality Act 2010, is to provide a framework for the school to pursue its equality duties to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment, promote equality of opportunity, and promote good relations and positive attitudes between people of diverse backgrounds in all its activities.

<b>Title</b>	Relationships and Sex Education
<b>Date of Issue</b>	September 2020
<b>Review Date</b>	September 2021
<b>Prepared by</b>	RSE Co-Ordinator
<b>To be reviewed by</b>	Headteacher and Governors
<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix 1: By the end of Primary School pupils should know Appendix 2: Parent Withdrawal Form Appendix 3: PSHE and Wellbeing Long-Term Plan Appendix 4: A Guide for Parents Appendix 5: DfE ‘Get the Facts’ - RSE FAQs for Parents
<b>Supply/distribution</b>	Available as a read-only document on the Fynamore school website and as a hardcopy in the school office.
<b>Other relevant approved documents</b>	None
<b>Authorised by</b>	Headteacher and Governors

## **1. Aims**

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.

## **2. Statutory Requirements**

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.

We are not required to provide sex education, but it is recommended by the Department for Education (DfE) to teach elements of sex education as a part of our curriculum (see Appendix 5 Department for Education 'Get the Facts' - Relationships and Sex Education FAQs for Parents).

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 Fynamore Primary School we teach RSE as set out in this policy and follow a recommended scheme of work from Coram Life Education called SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship), delivering the new Department for Education (DfE) statutory requirements for Relationships and Health Education (see Appendix 3).

## **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 were consulted via an online questionnaire to look at the policy and share views.
4. 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, 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. Curriculum**

Our curriculum is set out in Appendix 1, but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and don't seek answers online. We will offer parents the opportunity to discuss Relationships, Sex and Health Education with staff by their child's final year of Primary School.

Primary sex education will focus on:

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

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1.

## **6. 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).

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

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 3.

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, and 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).

Further information about the delivery of RSE can be found in Appendix 4 (A Guide for Parents) and Appendix 5 (Department for Education 'Get the Facts' - Relationships and Sex Education FAQs for Parents).

## **7. Roles and Responsibilities**

### **7.1 The Governing Board**

The Governing Board will approve the RSE policy, and hold the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

### **7.2 The Headteacher**

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-science components of RSE (see section 8).

### **7.3 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-science components of RSE

All teaching 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.

## 7.4 Pupils

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

## 8. Parents' Right to Withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-science components of sex education within RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 2 of this policy and addressed to the Headteacher.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

As a part of the SCARF scheme, the elements of sex education taught within our curriculum are detailed below:

### Changing adolescent body

Statutory requirement	SCARF lesson plans that support the teaching and learning of this
1. Key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Y1 Taking care of a baby</li><li>Y1 Then and now</li><li>Y2 My body, your body</li><li>Y2 Haven't you grown!</li><li>Y3 My changing body</li><li>Y4 Period positive</li><li>Y4 All change!</li><li>Y4 My feelings are all over the place!</li><li>Y5 Growing up and changing bodies</li><li>Y5 Changing bodies and feelings</li><li>Y5 Help! I'm a teenager - get me out of here!</li><li>Y6 Is this normal?</li><li>Y6 Making babies</li></ul>
2. About menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Y3 My changing body</li><li>Y4 Period positive</li><li>Y5 Growing up and changing bodies</li><li>Y6 Making babies</li><li>Y6 Is this normal?</li></ul>

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the video part of the 'Making babies' lesson taught in Year 6 (see Appendix 2 – parent withdrawal form), as this constitutes the non-science component of sex education within RSE. Parents of Year 6 pupils will be contacted before the video is shown to the pupils and will be given the opportunity to view the video, should they wish to.

## 9. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our Continuing Professional Development calendar.

## 10. Monitoring

The delivery of RSE is monitored by Kate Hurst – RSE Co-ordinator through:

Learning walks, monitoring of pupil's work, pupil voice.

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

This policy will be reviewed by Kate Hurst annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the Governing Body.

## Appendix 1: By the end of Primary School pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
<b>Families and people who care about me</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong</li> <li>• How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed</li> </ul>
<b>Caring friendships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends</li> <li>• The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties</li> <li>• That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded</li> <li>• That most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
<b>Respectful relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships</li> <li>• The conventions of courtesy and manners</li> <li>• The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness</li> <li>• That in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority</li> <li>• About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help</li> <li>• What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive</li> <li>• The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults</li> </ul>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
<b>Online relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not</li> <li>• That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous</li> <li>• The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them</li> <li>• How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met</li> <li>• How information and data is shared and used online</li> </ul>
<b>Being safe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)</li> <li>• About the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe</li> <li>• That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact</li> <li>• How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know</li> <li>• How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult</li> <li>• How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard</li> <li>• How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so</li> <li>• Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2: Parent Withdrawal Form

<b>Withdrawal from the Non-Science Components of Sex Education within RSE</b>			
<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/CARER</b>			
Name of child:		Class:	
Name of parent:		Date:	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education:			
Any other information you would like the school to consider:			
Parent signature:			

<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL</b>	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	

### Appendix 3: PSHE and Wellbeing Long-Term Plan

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#### PSHE and wellbeing long-term plan - including DfE statutory requirements for Relationships Education and Health Education

Year/Term	1 Me and my Relationships	2 Valuing Difference	3 Keeping Myself Safe	4 Rights and Responsibilities	5 Being my Best	6 Growing and Changing
EYFS	What makes me special People close to me Getting help	Similarities and difference Celebrating difference Showing kindness	Keeping my body safe Safe secrets and touches People who help to keep us safe	Looking after things: friends, environment, money	Keeping by body healthy – food, exercise, sleep Growth Mindset	Cycles Life stages
Y1	Feelings Getting help Classroom rules	Recognising, valuing and celebrating difference Developing tolerance and respect	How our feelings can keep us safe Keeping healthy Medicine Safety	Taking care of things: My self My money My environment	Growth Mindset Keeping by body healthy	Getting help Becoming independent My body parts
Y2	Bullying and teasing Our school rules about bullying Being a good friend Feelings/self-regulation	Being kind and helping others  Listening Skills	Safe and unsafe secrets  Appropriate touch  Medicine safety	Cooperation  Self-regulation	Growth Mindset  Looking after my body	Life cycles  Dealing with loss  Being supportive
Y3	Cooperation Caring friendships (Includes respectful relationships)	Recognising and respecting diversity Being respectful and tolerant	Managing risk Drugs and their risks Staying safe online	Skills we need to develop as we grow up Helping and being helped	Keeping myself healthy Celebrating and developing my skills	Relationships Menstruation Keeping safe
Y4	Recognising feelings Bullying Assertive skills	Recognising and celebrating difference (including religions and cultural difference) Understanding and challenging stereotypes	Managing risk Understanding the norms of drug use (cigarette and alcohol use) Influences	Making a difference (different ways of helping others or the environment) Media influence Decisions about spending money	Having choices and making decisions about my health Taking care of my environment	Body changes during puberty Managing difficult feelings Relationships including marriage
Y5	Feelings Friendship skills, including compromise Assertive skills	Recognising and celebrating difference, including religions and cultural Influence and pressure of social media	Managing risk, including staying safe online Norms around use of legal drugs (tobacco, alcohol)	Rights and responsibilities Rights and responsibilities relating to my health Decisions about lending, borrowing and spending	Growing independence and taking responsibility Media awareness and safety	Managing difficult feelings Managing change Getting help
Y6	Assertiveness Cooperation Safe/unsafe touches	Recognising and reflecting on prejudice-based bullying Understanding Bystander behaviour	Emotional needs Staying safe online Drugs: norms and risks (including the law)	Understanding media bias, including social media Caring: communities and the environment Earning and saving money	Aspirations and goal setting Managing risk	Keeping safe Body Image Self esteem



## Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school: a guide for parents

We want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe, and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. That is why, from September 2020, all primary age children will be taught Relationships and Health Education.

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. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when this curriculum was last updated – these changes bring the content into the 21st century, so that it is relevant for your child.

Your child's school will have flexibility to deliver the content in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate and sensitive to the needs and religious background of its pupils.

### Relationships Education

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.

By the end of primary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- families and people who care for me
- caring friendships
- respectful relationships
- online relationships
- being safe

You can find further detail by searching **'relationships and health education'** on GOV.UK.

### Health Education

Health Education aims to give your child the information they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, to recognise issues in themselves and others, and to seek support as early as possible when issues arise.



By the end of primary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- mental wellbeing
- internet safety and harms
- physical health and fitness
- healthy eating
- facts and risks associated with drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- health and prevention
- basic first aid
- changing adolescent body

You can find further detail by searching **'relationships and health education'** on GOV.UK.

## **Appendix 5: Department for Education ‘Get the Facts’ Relationships and Sex Education FAQs for Parents**

([www.gov.uk/government/news/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education-faqs](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education-faqs))

The Department for Education is introducing compulsory Relationships Education for primary pupils and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) for secondary pupils from September 2020. Also, from September 2020 it will be compulsory for all schools to teach Health Education.

Through these subjects, we want to support all young people to be happy, healthy and safe – we want to equip them for adult life and to make a positive contribution to society. Throughout our engagement process as we developed this curriculum, we have heard a number of wide ranging concerns.

Below, we have explained some of the common misconceptions around the subjects.

### **Q: Will my child’s school have to engage with me before teaching these subjects?**

**A:** Schools will be required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for Relationships Education and RSE, which will inform schools’ decisions on when and how certain content is covered. Effective engagement gives the space and time for parents to input, ask questions, share concerns and for the school to decide the way forward. Schools will listen to parents’ views, and then make a reasonable decision as to how they wish to proceed. When and how content is taught is ultimately a decision for the school, and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content.

A school’s policies for these subjects must be published online, and must be available to any individual free of charge. Schools should also ensure that, when they engage parents, they provide examples of the resources they plan to use, for example the books they will use in lessons.

For more information download our advice for primary schools on engaging parents on Relationships Education.

### **Q: Will my child be taught sex education at primary? This is too young.**

**A:** We are not introducing compulsory sex education at primary school.

We are introducing Relationships Education at primary, to put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships of all kinds. This will start with family and friends, how to treat each other with kindness, and recognising the difference between online and offline friendships.

Many primary schools choose to teach sex education (which goes beyond the existing national curriculum for science), and we recommend that they do so, tailored to the age, physical and emotional maturity of their pupils. In those instances we recommend you discuss this with the school, to understand what they propose to teach and how. If you continue to have concerns, you have an automatic right to withdraw your child from these sex education lessons.

### **Q: Does the new Relationships Education and RSE curriculum take account of my faith?**

**A:** The subjects are designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships, and to thrive in modern Britain.

In all schools, when teaching these subjects, the religious background of pupils must be taken into account when planning teaching, so that topics are appropriately handled. Schools with a religious character can build on the core required content by reflecting their beliefs in their teaching.

In developing these subjects, we have worked with a number of representative bodies and faith organisations, representing all the major faith groups in England. Several faith organisations produce teaching materials that schools can choose to use.

**Q: Do I have a right to withdraw my child from Relationships and Sex Education?**

**A:** Parents will continue to have a right to request to withdraw their child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, should be granted up to three terms before their child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at primary or secondary as we believe the contents of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught.

**Q: Has the government listened to the views of my community in introducing these subjects?**

**A:** A thorough engagement process, involving a public call for evidence and discussions with over 90 organisations, as well as the public consultation on the draft regulations and guidance, has informed the key decisions on these subjects. The consultation received over 11,000 responses from teachers, schools, expert organisations, young people and parents – these responses have helped finalise the statutory guidance.

**Q: Will my child be taught about LGBT relationships?**

**A:** Pupils should be taught about the society in which they are growing up. These subjects are designed to foster respect for others and for difference, and educate pupils about healthy relationships.

Pupils should receive teaching on LGBT content during their school years. Teaching children about the society that we live in and the different types of loving, healthy relationships that exist can be done in a way that respects everyone. Primary schools are strongly encouraged and enabled to cover LGBT content when teaching about different types of families.

Secondary schools should cover LGBT content in their RSE teaching. RSE should meet the needs of all pupils, whatever their developing sexuality or identity – this should include age-appropriate teaching about different types of relationships in the context of the law.

**Q: What support will schools receive to deliver these subjects well?**

**A:** We are investing in a central support package to help teachers introduce these subjects well and with confidence. This will include a new online service, featuring access to high quality resources, innovative training materials, case studies and an implementation guide, available from Spring 2020.

There will also be training available for teachers through existing regional networks, offering opportunities to improve subject knowledge and build confidence.

We're working with expert organisations, schools and teachers to develop this support.

**Q: Where can I find out more information about what will be taught in my child's school?**

**A:** If you want to know more about what will be taught as part of the new subjects, the best thing to do is speak to your child's school. We have also published parent guides, which explain what the subjects are, and parents' rights.

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. The important lessons you teach your child about healthy relationships, looking after themselves and staying safe, are respected and valued under this new curriculum.

Teaching at school will complement and reinforce the lessons you teach your child as they grow up. Your child's school will have flexibility to deliver the content in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate and sensitive to the needs and religious background of its pupils.