

What should be covered in a Relationships and Sex (RSE) Education policy?

Government guidance (2000) stipulates that the policy must:

- Define RSE
- Describe how RSE is provided and who is responsible for providing it
- Say how RSE is monitored and evaluated
- Include information about parents' right to withdrawal; and
- Be reviewed regularly

From September 2020 a Primary School Relationships Education policy should:

- Define Relationships Education
- Define any sex education you choose to teach other than that covered in the science curriculum
- Set out the subject content, how it is taught and who is responsible for teaching it
- Describe how the subject is monitored and evaluated
- Include information to clarify why parents do not have the right to withdraw their child
- Include information about a parent's right to request that their child be excused from non- statutory sex education
- Confirm the date by which the policy will be reviewed The DfE also suggests that policies should have sections that cover:
  - Details of content/scheme of work and when each topic is taught, taking into account the age of pupils
  - Who delivers Relationships Education and, if relevant Sex Education
  - How the policy has been produced, and how it will be kept under review, in both cases working with parents
  - How delivery of the content will be made accessible to all pupils, including those with SEND
  - Explanation of a right to withdraw
  - Requirements on schools in law
  - How often the policy is updated
  - Who approved the policy

There is nothing to stop schools reviewing their policy now in light of the 2020 draft guidance and start implementing any changes in preparation. The DfE recognises that many primary schools already teach Relationships and Sex Education and do not see any need for this to change.

The following policy template is designed for schools to use and adapt. Each section contains key questions designed to help teachers think about their policy and personalise the information to make it relevant to them. Therefore not all questions may be considered relevant. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is often referred

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Coram Life Education (CLE) Relationships Education Policy Template to throughout this document because the government recommends that Sex Education continues to be taught in primary schools, although it remains non-statutory.

## Relationship Education Policy

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Hollin Primary School

Date of policy: 06.06.2021

Members of staff responsible for Relationships Education and Health Education:

D Fenton Head Teacher, P Keogh Deputy Head Teacher

Review date: 06.06.2023

**1. How this Policy was developed:** This policy was developed by a working party of teachers from the Middleton collaborative (PiraMidd). The policy was shared with parents, pupils, staff and governors to ensure that the views and needs of all stakeholders were taken into consideration. This policy was approved by the PiraMidd Strategic Board and the governing body of each school.

**2. Requirements on schools in law:** From September 2020 it is mandatory that all primary schools follow Relationships education. This is section from the statutory guidance 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Guidance'.

**3. What is Relationships (and Sex) Education?** We believe that Relationships (and Sex) Education should teach the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships. The aims of Relationships (and Sex) Education are: - to equip the children with knowledge that will help them to develop positive relationships, with reference to family relationships, friendships and relationships with other peers and adults. - to develop an understanding of the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up.

As a school we follow the Corum SCARF (PSHE) scheme which is a whole school approach to improving children's well-being. It is based on five values - S safety, C caring, A achievement, R resilience and F friendship. The scheme links to SMSC curriculum, safeguarding and emotional well-being requirements. It also meets the requirements of the DfE Primary Relationships (and Sex) Education curriculum and national curriculum Science.

**When it will be taught and who is responsible for teaching it. (Time of year, frequency of lessons, which lessons).** Relationships and Health Education is taught by class teachers and Teaching Assistants. It is taught weekly in line with other subjects in the curriculum. The lessons follow a structure and are progressive from year one to year six. The outline of the structure of lessons is can be found on our school website. The individual lessons follow a plan of progressive lessons that build upon previous learning. Each year group addresses content that is age

appropriate in helping children develop an understanding of positive relationships and good health and well-being. Adults will deal with any questions or issues linked to RSE appropriately and sensitively. There may be a time when a member of staff does not immediately answer a child's question. However, they may speak to them later or refer them to speak to their parents or carer.

#### **4. How Relationships (and Sex) Education is monitored and evaluated?**

Monitoring is the responsibility of the Headteacher, Deputy Head Teacher, named Governor and Subject Leader with responsibility for RSE. The effectiveness of the RSE programme will be evaluated by assessing children's learning, children's work and pupil feedback, implementing change, if required.

**5. How the delivery of the content will be made accessible to all pupils?** As a school we ensure that the content and delivery of RSE is inclusive of all pupils and is in line with the Single Equality and Community Cohesion Policy and SEND Policy.

**6. The Role of Parents and other Professionals.** As a school, we believe that the primary role in children's RSE education lies with parents and carers. We foster positive and supporting relationships with parents at our school through trust, cooperation and a mutual understanding. In promoting this we will: - inform parents about the RSE policy and practice - answer any questions parents have about RSE - take seriously any issues that parents raise about RSE. Parents cannot withdraw their child from Relationships Education as it is a statutory subject. If you do not want your child to take part in some, or all, of the lessons on RSE, you can ask that they're withdrawn. Should you wish to discuss this, you will need to arrange a meeting with the Headteacher. In all maintained schools the science curriculum includes content on Human Development, including reproduction which there is no right to withdraw from. The teaching of relationships education is reflective of a child's age and development and outlined in our curriculum planning. We do not cover aspects of the curriculum intended for older children in Keystage 3. This is covered when your child reaches high school age.

**7. Child Protection and Safeguarding.** Due to the nature of some of the topics, a child may make a disclosure. All concerns and disclosures are responded to in line with the schools Child protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## Sources of Further Informationa

This policy has drawn on:

- DfES 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' (2000)
- Brook, Sex Education Forum and PSHE Association 'Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) for the 21st Century' - Supplementary advice to the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance DfEE (0116/2000) (2011)
- DfE Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Draft Guidance (July 2018)

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Schools own Safeguarding (inc. responding to disclosures)
- Schools own Anti-bullying
- Schools Equality, diversity and inclusion policy
- DfE Keeping children safe in education

Useful resources

Coram Life Education Online Teaching and Learning Training Film Clips and RSE Guidance Document: supports schools in organising and delivering RSE with confidence. Available as part of the SCARF online comprehensive Relationships Education and Health Education curriculum resources:

[https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/scarf/lesson-plans/relationships-education--](https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/scarf/lesson-plans/relationships-education--teacher-resou)  
teacher-resou

rces-guidance-documents-and-training-films (password protected).

PSHE Association RSE Policy Guidance <https://www.pshe-association.org.uk/curriculum-and-resources/resources/writing-your-rse-policy-guidance-pshe-association> (members only)

The Sex Education Forum RSE Policy Guidance

<https://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/resources/advice-guidance/sre-policy-guidance>

The Sex Education Forum have also provided a free resource to assist you in consulting pupils, parents and staff to inform you about what changes need to be made to your RSE policy and practice. 'Activities for consulting about your school sex and relationships policy'.

<https://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachment/Consultation%20activities%20-%20SRE%20policy%20-%20Sept%202014.pdf>