

Haddenham St Mary's CE School



RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Rationale and ethos

This policy covers our school approach to the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). RSE will be taught as part of our whole school PSHE curriculum and will be underpinned by the core values of our school.

The aim of RSE teaching is to assist young people in preparing for adult life by supporting them through their physical, emotional and moral development, and helping them to understand themselves, respect others and form and sustain healthy relationships. It was produced by the PSHE lead coordinator and SLT through consultation with all teaching staff.

Our school's overarching aims for our pupils are to provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place, prepare pupils 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 and teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.

We ensure RSE is inclusive and meets the needs of all our pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). A variety of differentiation strategies are used within the school to ensure that the individual needs of each child are met. This is in line with the school's policy on Special Educational Needs.

As the subject matter of RSE sometimes raises sensitive issues, it is important that teachers are aware of and sensitive to the background and personal circumstances of their pupils. We aim to plan the teaching and learning of RSE with a truthful yet sensitive approach appropriate to the age of the child and the situation. Haddenham St Mary's is committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all pupils. RSE should be relevant to all pupils regardless of their ability or background. We celebrate the uniqueness of all our children and we ensure RSE fosters gender equality and LGBT+ equality.

Roles and responsibilities

The RSE programme will be led by the PSHE/RSE co-ordinator and has been written with the input of all teachers. It will be taught in EYFS and KS1 in line with the year groups long term curriculum overviews as well as the foundation stage and national curriculum requirements. Teaching staff will be responsible for the teaching of RSE and will receive necessary training to ensure content is accessible to all pupils.

Statutory regulations and guidance

We are required to teach relationships education as part of our curriculum as set out in The Children and Social Work Act 2017, with statutory changes taking effect as of September 2020.

Documents that inform the school's RSE policy include:

- Education Act (1996)
- Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010),
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21st century (2014)
- Keeping children safe in education – Statutory safeguarding guidance (2016)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (2020)

Curriculum

Our RSE programme is an integral part of our whole school PSHE education provision and will cover health and wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world. We will ensure RSE is matched to the needs of our pupils by keeping a flexible approach to teaching and learning and regularly reviewing the curriculum in line with the pupils needs. High quality resources will support our RSE provision and will be regularly reviewed by teaching staff. Our RSE programme will be planned and delivered through fortnightly teaching sessions of the PSHE curriculum. Assessment in RSE will be completed formatively by teaching staff. An overview of the learning in each year group can be found on the school website.

Safe and effective practice

We will ensure a safe learning environment by setting appropriate rules and boundaries at the beginning of RSE teaching sessions. If questions are asked, they are answered truthfully and with sensitivity that is appropriate to the age of the child and the situation. All staff teaching RSE will be supported by training.

Safeguarding

Teachers are aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. Teachers will follow the schools child protection policy and consult with the designated safeguarding lead if any issues are raised.

Engaging stakeholders

Parents will be informed about the policy through the school website. They will also be able to access curriculum overviews for each year group on the school website. We wish to build a positive and supportive relationship with the parents of the children in our school. Therefore, the views of the pupils and their parents are sought in a variety of both formal and informal ways through the Home/School Partnership Programme and specific questionnaires. Governors will be informed of the RSE policy and curriculum through a Full governing body meeting. Pupil voice will be used to review and tailor our RSE programme to match the different needs of pupils through school council sessions.

Right to withdraw

Parents/carers will not have the right to withdraw their children from RSE content as all objectives taught at EYFS and KS1 are statutory.

Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

Teachers will critically reflect on their work in delivering RSE through staff meetings and INSET time. Changes will be made to the programme of study as deemed necessary. If staff training needs occur then these will be addressed accordingly.

Pupils will have opportunities to review and reflect on their learning during lessons through peer and self-assessment opportunities. They will be able to show their understanding through work completed in lessons.

Pupil voice will be influential in adapting and amending planned learning activities through reflective discussions at the end of teaching sessions, pupil surveys and through school council.

Review

This policy will be reviewed on three yearly basis. It will be reviewed by PSHE lead and the Head teacher. This will ensure the policy is in line with school values and statutory requirements.