



Relationship and Sex Education Policy

Estcourt Primary Academy

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Who is this policy for?

Staff members at Estcourt Primary Academy.

Author

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1	Insert date	New policy created	Sarah Gill

1. AIMS

The aims of sex and relationship education (RSE) 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 relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Ensure the delivery of RSE is factual, sensitive and balanced. Staff will avoid the imposition of personal opinion. Instead, they will stay focused on the social, moral, spiritual, health and education aspects of the topics.
- RSE promotes meaningful, loving and healthy relationships

The RSE policy is underpinned by the ethos and values throughout the school.

2. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Under the Academies Act 2010 all schools must provide a balanced and broadly-based curriculum which:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
- prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

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 (2019)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

3. POLICY DEVELOPMENT

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents.

4. DEFINITION

Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) is part of a lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. At Estcourt Primary Academy, RSE is centred on personal safety, caring for others and building strong family relationships.

Effective relationship and sex education is essential if young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their lives. RSE at Estcourt Primary Academy is intended to help students learn about characteristics of positive relationships (family relationships, caring friendships, and online relationships), building positive emotional and mental wellbeing, personal safety, caring for others and showing respect.

We aim to present relevant facts in an objective and balanced manner.

RSE at Estcourt Primary Academy will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through to adolescence.

5. DELIVERY OF RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum using the Jigsaw framework. Some biological aspects of RSE may also be taught within the science curriculum.

Pupils may also receive stand-alone growing up talks as well as relationships and sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional.

Across all Key Stages, pupils will be supported with developing the following skills:

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others

- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work.

Across the faiths, there is obviously some variation in attitudes and outlooks in regard to Relationships and Sex. The teaching of RSE at Estcourt Primary Academy is respectful of all cultural and religious differences.

The teaching of RSE at Estcourt Primary Academy is in line with outcomes outlined within the ECM framework, specifically, "Be Healthy" & "Stay Safe".

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1. The Academy Advisory Board

The academy advisory board has delegated the approval of this policy to Selina Midgley Wright.

6.2. The Principal

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

6.3. Staff

The Teaching of Relationships and Sex Education

RSE will be taught across the curriculum but specifically in PHSE and science. Teachers and external professionals may also deliver elements of SRE and certain aspects of the programme.

Staff are guided by the Fraser Guidelines*, which provide guidance for health and education professionals and details of these are provided in the DfE Relationships and Sex Education (2019) guidance.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805781/Relationships Education Relationships and Sex Education __RSE and Health Education.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805781/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education__RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)

Relationships Education – Primary

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/relationships-education-primary>

We make it clear to pupils what our procedures are with regard to confidentiality. Similarly, if questions are asked in class or in assembly adults will follow agreed practice based on DfE guidance 2019. 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.

In the instance of a disclosure, staff will consult with the designated safeguarding lead Selina Midgley-Wright and in their absence the deputy safeguarding Lead / Head of Academy or Principal.

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 will:

- Use the correct terms for all body parts
- Use clear, unequivocal language in an objective manner
- Use their professional judgement as to answering questions in front of the whole class or individually taking into account the Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Policy.
- Encourage learners to ask their parents/carers any question outside the planned programme.
- Set out clear ground rules regarding personal questions, which are agreed by staff beforehand.
- Have designated adults that learners know of to go to if they wish to talk.

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 Principal.

RSE resources:

RSE resources are chosen and checked for:

- Being inclusive – acknowledging the full spectrum of diversity in society
- Positive, healthy and unbiased messages
- Age and understanding appropriateness.

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

The Relationships Education, RSE, and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 have made Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools. Sex education is not compulsory in primary schools.

1. Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from relationships education in primary school.
2. Primary schools that choose to teach aspects of sex education which go beyond the national curriculum for science must allow parents a right to withdraw their child/ children.

8. TRAINING

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in the continuing professional development calendar.

School nurses/ sexual health professionals may provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

9. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

The delivery of RSE is monitored by Laura Thompson and Kimberley Plummer through work scrutinies and learning walks in line with the Estcourt Primary Academy monitoring cycle.

The PHSE/ RSE team monitor the delivery of the RSE programme and ensure that all aspects of RSE are covered as defined in government guidance. The programme is reviewed on an annual basis.

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

As part of effective RSE provision, this policy will be reviewed at least every 2 years to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of pupils, staff and parents and that it is in line with current Department for Education advice and guidance.

10. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Estcourt PSHE Jigsaw Policy