



## Policy Statement: Relationships & Sex Education (RSE)

Relationships Education (RSE) is compulsory for all primary school children as instructed by the Department for Education (2019). Sex education is not. Parents and carers can be confident that the school will follow government guidance and will also ensure that all content taught will be age-appropriate for very young children.

We teach Relationships Education through our Personal Social and Health Education curriculum throughout the school. Parents and carers have access to the curriculum on our website or can discuss the content of these lessons with the class teacher or the Deputy Headteacher. Our curriculum in Personal, Social and Health Education encompasses the development of respect, friendships, self-confidence and morals.

The Department for Education provides the following guidance to schools for the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education:

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults.

This starts with pupils being taught about what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who the people are who can support them. From the beginning of primary school, building on early education, pupils should be taught how to take turns, how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect, the importance of honesty and truthfulness, permission seeking and giving, and the concept of personal privacy.

It is important that the transition phase before moving to secondary school supports pupils' ongoing emotional and physical development effectively. The department continues to recommend therefore that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born.

In all classes, from Nursery to Year 6, we teach children to develop positive attitudes towards themselves and their friends and family. They learn the consequences of their actions and behaviours on other people and how the actions of others impact upon themselves. We teach children to have self-confidence and good self-esteem so that they can value themselves and communicate effectively in all of their friendships/relationships. We teach children how to develop a respect for their own body and other people's and we teach them how to stop themselves being exploited; giving them the information they need to be able to report inappropriate behaviours. We learn about emotional intelligence and how to recognise and express their feelings precisely.

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Review as changes occur.

We focus on understanding the importance of family life for all. We help children to recognise and respect that people make their individual choices about the relationships they form and to accept all forms of family; even when they look very different to our own.

In Year 6, children have a lesson on puberty so that they can understand the changes that are happening to their body. Parents and carers are informed about this prior to it taking place and have the opportunity to discuss this lesson with the class teacher. Special arrangements can be made for children who are very immature or have additional learning needs which might result in children not understanding the content. Parents and carers also have the opportunity to withdraw their child if they wish to do so.