

Saltaire Primary School



RELATIONSHIPS, SEX AND HEALTH EDUCATION POLICY

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Saltaire Primary School

Relationships, Sex And Health Education Policy

Contents

[1. Aims](#)

[2. Statutory requirements](#)

[3. Policy development](#)

[4. Definition](#)

[5. Curriculum](#)

[6. Delivery of RSE](#)

[7. Roles and responsibilities](#)

[7.1 The governing board](#)

[7.2 The headteacher](#)

[7.3 Staff](#)

[7.4 Pupils](#)

[8. Parents' right to withdraw](#)

[9. Training](#)

[10. Monitoring arrangements](#)

[Appendix 1: By the end of primary school pupils should know](#)

[Appendix 2: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE](#)

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

The framework for relationships and sex education relates closely to the school's vision and values, particularly in relation to the core values of:

Respect: We think about the feelings, wishes and rights of others

Responsibility: We behave in a correct way towards others and in different situations; We are trustworthy; We are reasonable; We are good and reliable friends and role models

Reflection: We make good decisions

These are an inherent aspect of the RSE framework, giving children an opportunity to explore the values in meaningful, real-life contexts.

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](#).

However, we are not required to provide sex education but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

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 Saltaire Primary School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

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 and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy

4. Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
5. 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, sexual health, sexuality, 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 on the school website (our curriculum intent) but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

The curriculum intent which incorporates and meets the requirements of:

PSHE curriculum

Relationships and health education

Sex education

Safety curriculum

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.

Primary sex education will focus on:

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

The school will provide a personalised curriculum according to:

- Age
- Physical and emotional maturity
- Religious backgrounds
- Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Teaching will need to reflect current law as it applies to relationships, so that children understand what the law does and doesn't allow.

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map on the school website.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Some biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional. In addition, health professionals deliver sessions to Year 5 and Year 6 children to further develop their knowledge and understanding of puberty.

We use the Coram SCARF resources to deliver the expectations of the Relationships Education curriculum. Dedicated time is built into the teaching timetable each week and is given a high priority. Teachers will use appropriate approaches (such as Circle Time) according to the age and needs of the children in their class. Teachers must have regular involvement and oversight of what is being taught, even if not teaching the content themselves.

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

The following areas are included in the curriculum and are not covered by the Relationships and Health Education guidance.

Year 2

- Explain that a person's genitals help them to make babies when they are grown up

Year 3

- Recognise that babies come from the joining of an egg and sperm

Year 6

- Know that some inappropriate touch is also illegal
- Understand what FGM is and that it is an illegal practice in this country
- Know a variety of ways in which the sperm can fertilise the egg to create a baby;
- Know the legal age of consent and what it means.
- Explain how HIV affects the body's immune system;
- Understand that HIV is difficult to transmit;
- Know how a person can protect themselves from HIV

It should be noted that all of these topics are covered using an age-appropriate method and most will only provide a very brief input to the topic, for example, coverage of FGM or HIV.

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see the school website.

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, 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). This is further supported through the use of high-quality texts to support children's knowledge and understanding at an age-appropriate level.

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-statutory/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-statutory/non-science components of RSE

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.

All teachers and HLTAs are responsible for the teaching of RSE at Saltaire Primary School.

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-statutory/non-science components of sex education within RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher.

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

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.

The headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the headteacher, deputy headteacher and PSHE coordinator through:

- Learning walks
- Work scrutiny
- Discussion with children
- Curriculum overview documentation

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

This policy will be reviewed by Rob Whitehead, Headteacher. At every review, the policy will be approved by the Curriculum & Standards Committee.

Appendix 1: By the end of primary school pupils should know

Topic	Pupils should know
Families and people who care about me	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability• 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• 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• 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• That marriage and civil partnerships represent a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong• How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed

Caring friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends• The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties• That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded• 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• 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
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<p>Respectful relationships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 ● Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships ● The conventions of courtesy and manners ● The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness ● 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 ● 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 ● What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive ● The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults
<p>Online relationships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not ● 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 ● The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them ● How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met ● How information and data is shared and used online

Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)• 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• That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact• How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know• How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult• How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard• How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so• Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources
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Appendix 2: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

To be completed by parents			
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			

To be completed by the school

Agreed actions from discussion with parents

Include notes from discussions with parents and agreed actions taken.

(Eg: Child will be taking part in all relationships lessons and during the sex education lessons, he will be working independently on a project in the Year 5 classroom)