



Lilleshall Primary School

Relationships and Sex Education Policy 2024 - 2025

Rationale

Under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, the Government committed to making Relationships Education statutory in all primary schools. Current regulations and guidance from the Department of Education state that from September 2020, all schools must deliver Relationships Education (primary) and Relationships and Sex Education (secondary). All schools must have a Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy in place.

There are elements of Sex Education that are non- statutory in primary schools but in order to safeguard pupils effectively, Lilleshall Primary has a comprehensive programme of RSE as an integral part of our PSHE provision.

Parents have a right to withdraw pupils from RSE for aspects of Sex Education which are not part of the Science curriculum.

This Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy works in conjunction with the school's:

- PSHE policy

- Safeguarding policy
- Behaviour policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Equality policy
- E-safety policy

Sex education is defined as 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development'. It is about understanding the importance of healthy relationships for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health.

Relationships and sex education are part of the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum in our school. While we use sex education to inform children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions. We do not use sex education as a means of promoting any form of sexual orientation.

We view the partnership of home and school as vital in providing the context of studying relationships between different groups of people.

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

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

Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involves the following steps:

- Review - a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
- Staff consultation - all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
- Parent/stakeholder consultation - parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy
- Pupil consultation - we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
- Ratification - once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

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.

Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out in the curriculum overviews and progression grids for PSHE and science; we may need to adapt these as and when necessary.

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

Full details of the coverage of these areas is outlined in the PSHE and science curriculum overviews and progression grids.

Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum through the units 'Relationships' and 'Changing Me'. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum through the units 'Animals Including Humans' and 'Living Things and Their Habitats'; other aspects are included in religious education (RE). The RSE curriculum has been mapped out clearly in the progression grids for PSHE, Science and RE which ensure coverage of all of the statutory elements by the end of the primary phase; these are delivered at the appropriate stage for our children. A flexible approach will be taken when planning for children with SEND and content and teaching will be tailored to meet the specific needs of children at different developmental stages. Consideration will also be given to the fact that some pupils are more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND and appropriate measures and staff training are in place in order to identify and support these pupils.

Pupils may also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional where the school feels that this is appropriate.

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me
 - Caring friendships
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- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

Sex education focuses on teaching about the life cycle of humans and how we grow and change including:

- How bodies change during puberty
- The importance of looking after ourselves physically and emotionally
- How a baby develops from conception and how it is born
- Being physically attracted to another person

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).

Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body

The governing board will approve the RSE policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

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 components of RSE.

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 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 or subject leader.

The following tables outlines the names and roles of the staff responsible for teaching RSE in our school.

Year Group	Staff member(s)	Role
Year R	Mrs Savill	Deputy Head/KS1 Leader/YR Teacher/SENCO
Year 1	Mrs Giles	Y1 Teacher/Geography and DT Lead
Year 2	Mrs McCormick	Y2 Teacher/English and RE Lead
Year 3	Mrs Lee	Y3 Teacher/History and Music Lead
Year 4	Miss Evans	Y4 Teacher/MFL, PE and Computing Lead
Year 5	Miss Field	Deputy Head/PSHE and Maths Lead/Y5 Teacher
Year 6	Mr Firmstone-Hill	Assistant Head/Science, MFL and Computing Lead/ Y6 Teacher

Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

Parents' right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE however at Lilleshall we are only teaching the statutory components.

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 when appropriate.

Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the subject leader and the senior leadership team through:

Lesson observations, book scrutiny, pupil voice, learning walks and staff discussion.

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

This policy will be reviewed annually by the subject leader. At every review, the policy will be approved by the head teacher and the governing body.

Policy approved by *Governors*

Signed Head Teacher: *Christobel Cousins* Date: October 2024

Signed Chair of Governors: *Chris Raper* Date: October 2024

Appendix 1: Curriculum

Our curriculum is spiral and progressive and is contained within the Relationships and Changing Me units of the PSHE curriculum. Coverage, progression and end points for each Key Stage can be found on the PSHE progression map which is published on the school website.

