



Brampton Abbots CE Primary School



Bridstow CE Primary School



Oak Meadow Federation

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

This policy will be reviewed and updated by the Governing Body at least every three years.
All references to 'the school' imply both Brampton Abbots and Bridstow Primary Schools.

Policy approved by Governing Body on 21st June 2021

Signed Daniel Brearey, Headteacher

Paul Mason, GB Chair

Policy due for review July 2024

Relationships and Sex Education policy

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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

2. Statutory requirements

2.1 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](#).

2.2 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.

2.3 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](#).

2.4 At the school we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Links to other policies and guidance

3.1 This policy should be read in conjunction with our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

3.2 This policy has been written with awareness of the DfE guidance on Sexual Violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges (2018)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/719902/Sexual_violence_and_sexual_harassment_between_children_in_schools_and_colleges.pdf

3.3 This policy has been written in conjunction with our school Peer-on-Peer Abuse Policy.

4. 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

5. 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.

6. Curriculum

6.1 Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

6.2 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 do not seek answers online.

6.3 Primary sex education will focus on:

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

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1.

7. Delivery of RSE

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

7.2 Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions in Upper Key Stage two on a two-year cycle. 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

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

7.3 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).

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 The governing body

The governing body will approve the RSE policy and hold the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

8.2 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 components of RSE (see section 8).

8.3 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 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.

8.4 Pupils

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

9. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory 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.

10. 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.

Appendix 1: Curriculum map

Relationships and sex education curriculum map

We use the Shropshire RSE programme. This teaches children to understand and respect themselves and their bodies as part of a healthy lifestyle approach. The RSE topic has three sections; Choices and Challenges, Changes and Care and Commitment. In year 5 & 6 there is a greater emphasis on the changes that occur in puberty. Year 6 uses the Shropshire RSE Transition Programme. Pupils are taught about relationships and encouraged to discuss issues. We teach the parts of the body, using the correct terminology, how these work and how we change as we grow. We encourage children to ask for help, providing reassurance that change is part of life's cycle.

In science lessons in Key Stage 1 the children are taught about how humans change and grow and how a baby is born. The focus is on changes and growing, keeping our bodies and ourselves healthy and safe. For this aspect we follow the guidance material in the national scheme of work for science. In Key Stage 2 we teach about life processes and the main stages of the human life cycle in greater depth.

Curriculum map by Year Group:

		RSE		
		Choices & Challenges	Changes	Care & Commitment
YEAR 1 & 2	KSI Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car wash touching • Caring for pets • People who care for us • Story time • Body outline 		YEAR 1 & 2 L1 Amazing me L2 Same but different L3 Animals and their babies L4 I can do L5 Being safe	YEAR 1 & 2 Hygiene
			YEAR 3 L1 Growing up L2 Changes L3 Fact & fiction	YEAR 3 Friendship
YEAR 3 & 4	KS2 Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a character • Conscience alley 		YEAR 4 L1 Lifecycle L2 Keeping safe L3 Periods	YEAR 4 & 5 L1 Healthy choice challenge
			YEAR 5 L1 Puberty L2 Menstruation L3 Reproduction L4 Pregnancy & birth	L2 What and who helps L3 Celebrating
YEAR 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overheard conversations 	Respect Yourself: RSE Transition Programme Year 6 and 7		
Home/School partnership Understanding parent concerns Sample letter to parents • Parents leaflet Guidance on running a parents' session Whole school approach OFSTED recommendations Understanding staff concerns • Sample RSE policy Sample governors' statement • Training support				

Appendix 2: 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 represents 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
Respectful relationships	<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

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Online relationships	<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

Appendix 3: 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			