



RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Date of most recent review: _____ May 2023
Date of next review: _____ May 2024
Members of staff responsible: _____ Gill Pritchard

This policy has been considered in line with our vision – ‘Caring, Believing, Achieving’.

At Hatherop C of E Primary School, through a positive and caring environment, we provide the opportunity for every child to reach their full potential. We embrace Christian values and ensure all children are ready for their next steps. The school’s policy for relationships and sex education (RSE) is based on guidance from the DfE (2019) and the Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning Resources. The Church of England Education Office supports the approach taken by the government, including recommending an age-appropriate provision of sex education at primary level.

According to the DfE, in order for pupils to embrace the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life, they need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy. High quality, evidence-based and age-appropriate teaching of these subjects can help prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Aim

The aim of Relationships and Sex Education is to promote pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

- To meet the requirements of the DfE guidance on RSE.
- To help and support children through physical, emotional and moral development.
- To develop in children the skills and understanding to have the confidence to approach their relationships in a positive way.
- To enable children to move with confidence from childhood through adolescence to adulthood.
- To understand the changes that occur to the human body during puberty.
- To understand that all sexual orientations are of equal value.
- To ensure children are aware of personal space and their right to privacy.

RSE in the Curriculum

RSE is taught in Term 6 in each class as part of the planned PSHE curriculum using the Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning Resources. There will be a sequence of 4 lessons for each year group.

Each year group will have RSE teaching with a trusted adult and with clear ground rules in place such as respect and confidentiality. A question box will be provided before each session so that pupils have the opportunity to ask questions in a non-threatening way.

The lessons for each year groups will be as follows:

Year R – Responsibility, Growing up, People who help us, Keeping ourselves clean

Year 1- Life Cycles, The Human Life Cycle, Being Unique, Personal Hygiene

Year 2-Body parts, Where do babies come from, Physical Changes, Independence

Year 3- Reproductive Organs, Types of love, Personal Hygiene

Year 4- Life Cycle, Responsibilities, Antibiotics, Challenging stereotypes

Year 5- Physical changes, Emotional changes, Keeping clean, Genetic Inheritance.

Year 6- Physical changes, Emotional Changes, Sexual Intercourse, Relationships

Where possible, we will align the teaching of RSE with our Science Curriculum and seek advice and support from health professionals when necessary.

In each year group pupils discuss key safeguarding issues.

Both boys and girls receive the same input and understand the changes that occur in their own gender as well as that of the opposite sex. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or any part of sex education, but not from the biological aspects of human growth and reproductions provided under the National Curriculum for Science. Sex education will be taught within the context of relationships and family life.

Consultation

Prior to teaching RSE, all parents/carers will be consulted. Example materials will be shared, the importance of Relationship and Sex education emphasised and their rights to withdraw clarified. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn they should discuss this with the Headteacher and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in.

Equal opportunities/inclusion

At Hatherop C of E Primary School, we actively seek to encourage equity and equality through our teaching. As such, we seek to advance the equality of opportunity between people who share any of the following characteristics:

- gender;
- ethnicity;
- disability;
- religion or belief;
- sexual orientation;
- gender reassignment;

The use of stereotypes under any of the above headings will always be challenged.

Vulnerable children such as Looked After Children may have issues in their past which makes this a potentially difficult area to teach. The DSL will advise the class teachers as required prior to planning sessions.

Confidentiality

All teaching staff are trained in child protection issues. Any concerns raised through RSE are dealt with according to child protection procedures and policies.

Other related policies:

This policy should be read in conjunction with other related policies, namely:

Safeguarding/Child Protection

Relationships and Behaviour Policy

Complaints Policy

SEND policy

Monitoring arrangements

This policy is reviewed and updated annually. One or more governors attend the RSE parents' session. Governors may also conduct monitoring visits as part of the Health and Well-being Hub and discuss the implementation and impact of this policy with staff subject leads as appropriate and depending upon current priorities.