

Wimborne Primary School Relationships and Sex Education Policy



Statutory Duty of School

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.

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 Wimborne we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

Aims

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at Wimborne 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

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 as per Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, considering 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 at Wimborne 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 PSHE curriculum overview map in Appendix 1

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Delivery of RSE

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). Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions in year 5 and year 6.

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

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 body will hold the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy. The governing body has delegated the approval of this policy to the Standards Committee.

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 those non-statutory components of RSE

Teachers are required to adhere to the school's policy on confidentiality between themselves and pupils, especially when they believe that a pupil has embarked on a course of conduct that would place him or her at moral or physical risk or in breach of the law. Adults teaching SRE should keep in

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mind the school's Safeguarding Policy in respect of conduct and confidentiality.

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.

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 have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of any sex education provided, but not from the teaching of the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction necessary under National Curriculum Science.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing with the reason for withdrawing from sex education within the relationship and sex education curriculum and addressed to the headteacher.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

Monitoring, Evaluating and Review

The delivery of RSE is monitored by Curriculum Lead through:
Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body every 2 years.

Agreed date: July 2023
Review date: Summer 2025