



RSE POLICY

(Relationships and Sex Education)

Reviewed	February 2024
Next review date	February 2026

Harrington Hill Primary School

RSE Policy

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

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](#).

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 Harrington Hill Primary we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff 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 consultation – the policy, as well as other helpful documents, were made available to parents on the website for two weeks and they were invited to discuss any points
4. 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 in Appendix 1. This will be reviewed and adapted as and when necessary. The curriculum content is based on the Jigsaw scheme of work and the National Science Curriculum. Teachers will use the objectives and always take into account the needs and feelings of our 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.

The Jigsaw programme addresses issues of sexual harassment head on through the Relationships and Changing Me puzzles pieces. It is also underpinned by an ongoing focus on mental health and respect for all. Children learn key anti-bullying messages (including cyber and homophobic bullying) and from an early age, learn about the importance of respecting their bodies and that certain parts of the body are private. Children in KS2 learn about managing their relationships with others and the importance of consent and respect.

As part of our annual Healthy Choices week, we also use the NSPCC PANTS material in every class. Pupils learn and revisit how to stay safe by learning the PANTS rules, which the NSPCC have developed to be like a Green Cross Code for staying safe from sexual abuse.

Primary sex education focuses 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.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Harrington Hill uses the Jigsaw scheme of work to deliver these lessons. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum.

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

Our school follows the Jigsaw scheme of work to deliver the non-statutory element of the RSE curriculum. For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

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).

7. Inclusion

7.1 Equality

Harrington Hill Primary School is an inclusive school where we place a strong focus on the wellbeing and progress of every child and where all members of our community are of equal worth.

Schools have a legal duty to promote equality (Equality Act, 2010) and to combat bullying (Education Act, 2006) (which includes homophobic, sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying) and Section 4.2 of the national curriculum (2014) states "Teachers should take account of their duties under equal opportunities legislation that covers race, disability, sex, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment."

RSE has clear links with other school policies aimed at promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including the:

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- E Safety Policy
- Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy
- SMSC Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy

7.2 SEND

At Harrington Hill Primary School Relationships and Health Education is accessible for all pupils. We provide high quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised to ensure accessibility.

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RSE policy, and hold the Head of School to account for its implementation.

8.2 The Head of School

The Head of School is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for discussing any concerns or issues parents may have.

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

Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the Head of School.

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 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 and addressed to the Head of School. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

10. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The Head of School will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

11. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the Lead for PSHE, Phase Leaders and the Head of School through: Learning Walks, child conferencing/ pupil voice and work sampling.

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems. This policy will be reviewed by PSHE lead on a bi-annual basis or in the event of updated statutory guidance.

At every review, the policy will be approved by Governing Board.

Appendix 1: RSE Curriculum

Relationships and sex education curriculum

RSE is taught through the Jigsaw scheme of work and National Science Curriculum.

Jigsaw is split into six Puzzles (units) with puberty and human reproduction being taught in the 'Changing Me' Puzzle over a period of 6 weeks, usually in the **second half of the summer term**.
(These lessons are not statutory)

The Jigsaw 'Changing Me' Puzzle is all about coping positively with change and includes:

Ages 3-5	Growing up: how we have changed since we were babies.
Ages 5-6	Boys' and girls' bodies; correct names for body parts.
Ages 6-7	Boys' and girls' bodies; body parts and respecting privacy (which parts of the body are private and why this is).
Ages 7-8	How babies grow and how boys' and girls' bodies change as they grow older. Introduction to puberty and menstruation.
Ages 8-9	Internal and external reproductive body parts. Recap about puberty and menstruation. Conception explained in simple terms.
Ages 9-10	Puberty for boys and girls in more detail including the social and emotional aspects of becoming an adolescent. Conception explained in simple biological terms.
Ages 10-11	Puberty for boys and girls revisited. Understanding conception to the birth of a baby. Becoming a teenager. All lessons are taught using correct terminology, child-friendly language and diagrams.

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National Science Curriculum (*These lessons are statutory*)

Key Stage 1:	<p>Animals, including humans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense (Y1) • notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults (Y2) • describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene (Y2)
Key Stage 2:	<p>Animals, including humans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat (Y3) • describe the changes as humans develop to old age (Y5) • learn about the changes experienced in puberty (Y5) • recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function (Y6) <p>Living things and their habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe the differences in life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird (Y5) • describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals (Y5) <p>Evolution and inheritance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents (Y6)

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

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
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
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

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
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			

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS

Parent
signature

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL

Agreed actions
from discussion
with parents