



Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

<i>Review date</i>	Summer 2023
<i>Review period</i>	Triennial by SLT and Trustees
<i>Next Review date</i>	Summer 2026
<i>Policy type</i>	Legislative
<i>Other related policies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguarding/Child Protection policy• Confidentiality policy

Statutory Guidance

It is a statutory duty for schools to provide Relationships and Sex Education. Trustees, governors and leaders of schools must provide a Relationships and Sex Education policy and it is a statutory duty to do this with regard to government guidance. At The Griffin Primary School we teach Relationships and Sex Education in accordance with the DfE's guidance published in July 2019: Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education. It states that all Academy Primary schools must teach Relationship Education and although it is not statutory to teach Sex Education at Primary age, we feel it is appropriate to cover elements of it which are contained within the Science Curriculum. We also feel it is essential to prepare our children for life in modern day Britain by developing their knowledge with an age-appropriate understanding of healthy relationships through appropriate RSE lessons. Other guidance used to inform this policy are:

- GOV.uk: relationships education, relationships and sex education, and personal, social, health and economic education
- DfE's: Keeping Children Safe in Education
- DfE's: Statutory policies for schools and academy trusts
- DfE's: Equality Act 2010: advice for schools
- PSHE Association: Road Map to Statutory RSE
- Sex Education Forum: Aligning changes to Ofsted and RSE

What is RSE?

RSE is a vital part of PSHE. We believe that it is important to value and to protect all children and this informs our approach to Relationship and Sex Education. We believe that all children are entitled to good quality Relationship and Sex education that treats all with dignity and respect. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health.

Relationships Education - We believe that Relationships Education in primary schools will protect children. The new Government guidance sets out the content under the following headings:

'Families and people who care for me', 'Caring friendships', 'Respectful relationships', 'Online relationships', 'Being safe'.

There is widespread agreement that children need to be able to recognise abusive behaviour and to know how to seek help if they are worried about abuse or experience it. The new guidance states that by the end of primary school all children should know: 'how to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so'. At The Griffin Primary School we believe that Relationships Education should promote equal, safe and enjoyable relationships and be taught in a way which fosters LGBT and gender equality, in line with the Equalities Act 2010. The new Government guidance is compatible with this.

Sex Education - In the new Government guidance, the DfE continues to recommend that all primary schools 'have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils'. The Griffin Primary School's Sex Education aims to ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - about how a baby is conceived and born.

Health Education covers puberty, the changing adolescent body, menstrual wellbeing and the menstrual cycle.

Relationships Education, Health Education, science and sex education work together to protect children by ensuring they have knowledge of their bodies, the human life-cycle, emotions, acceptable behaviour and right and wrong. These are all aspects covered in our PSHE lessons using the Jigsaw PSHE scheme.

Aims

The aim of teaching RSE at The Griffin Primary School is to equip children and young people with the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships, to enjoy their sexuality and to take responsibility for their sexual health and well-being.

The learning is about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. The curriculum provided will endeavour to enable children to –

- have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others
- understand about the range of relationships, including the importance of family for the care and support of children
- develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships
- be able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work
- be prepared for puberty
- understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within relationships
- be able to recognise unsafe situations and be able to protect themselves and ask for help and support
- understand the role the media plays in forming attitudes

Teaching, Learning, Monitoring and Evaluating

At The Griffin Primary School we have chosen to teach RSE as part of our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) curriculum, providing good quality lessons which develop with the child throughout their time in school.

RSE begins with teaching children about appropriate behaviour, safety and basic understanding of their bodies and how families care for them. There are also elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

RSE is organised within the PSHE framework and is designed to be inclusive and to meet the needs of all children, developing mutual respect, rights and responsibilities, and equality with regard to gender, sexuality, age and acceptance of diversity.

Our curriculum ensures that all year groups have age appropriate lesson content and this progresses from EYFS to Year 6. We follow the 'Jigsaw' PSHE scheme.

The lessons will be delivered in class by school staff and monitored by the PSHE coordinator and Senior Leadership Team, through book looks, pupil voice questionnaires and learning walks to monitor evidence of the use of the 'Jigsaw' scheme to support learning. RSE in Years 5 and 6 is supplemented by 'Puberty Talks'. These are in the Summer Term and may be delivered by a specialist nurse. Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our formative assessment.

Consultation

The SLT and Trustees will review this policy every 3 years, or earlier if there are any statutory changes in the guidance. Parents, staff and pupils will be consulted should there be significant changes to the content of the policy and they have access to the RSE policy via the school website. We will listen to, consider and responded to all views to help strengthen the policy, ensuring that it meets the needs of all of our pupils.

Parents' right to withdraw

Parents will be informed about and have access to the RSE policy via our website if they wish to see it. 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 covered in Year 5 and Year 6. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the Head teacher. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.