RSE Policy

Date: May 2023

Review Date: May 2025

Only our best will do!

Albrighton Primary School

RSE Policy

This policy covers our approach to Relationships Education; a statutory component of the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum from September 2020. It aims to set out the purpose of Relationships Education and the intended outcomes for pupils, what is covered in our curriculum and how it is delivered.

We define Relationships Education as learning about the many strands of relationships and growing up. This includes family relationships, friendships and relationships with peers and adults, healthy and unhealthy relationships, the characteristics of positive relationships, relationships online and the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up.

Purpose and Principles

At our school, we believe in providing every pupil with open, honest, accurate and age-appropriate lessons all about relationships. Through the school's ethos and values, we aim to develop children's knowledge, skills, opinions, strategies and confidence - enabling them to cope with life and live safely and happily in the modern world.

Lessons about keeping safe, good and bad touch, people who help us, good friendships and peer pressure are taught throughout the year. These lessons start in Reception and build each year so that when children leave primary school, they will have a comprehensive understanding of healthy friendships, growing up, keeping safe and where to seek help or advice if they are worried or scared. Prior to a unit of work, which includes sensitive content, a letter detailing individual lesson content is sent out to parents so that parents can respond to any questions that may arise.

We highly value the partnership between school and home and will promote open and informative two-way communication. We aim to provide parents and carers with accurate information about what their child is learning in school and to provide the best learning environment and opportunities for our children.

Our Relationships Education curriculum is inclusive and meets the needs of all children, including those with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). We also aim to promote gender equality and represent the LGBT+ community through our Relationships curriculum. Adaptive teaching means that teachers adapt their teaching to make it appropriate for all students in their classroom so every child can access the learning and be successful in their learning. Within the context of teaching RSE, teachers will understand that they may need to be more explicit and adapt their planning of work and teaching methods in order to appropriately deliver the programme to pupils with SEND or other needs.

In an age-appropriate way, children will learn how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect.

- Accept and respect diversity among others and foster a positive approach to differences.
- Characteristics of healthy family life and that other people's families sometimes look different from theirs. (Families can include for example, single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents and carers amongst other structures).
- What makes a healthy relationship, and how to build strong, respectful relationships with others in their life, e.g. family, friends, colleagues
- Recognise if relationships are making them feel unhappy and unsafe, and how to seek help if needed.
- Rules and principles for keeping safe online.

Statutory Regulations

From September 2020, all primary schools must deliver Relationships Education. Under the Education Act 2002/Academies Act 2010, all schools must provide a balanced and broadly-based curriculum which:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
- prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

- Documents that inform the school's Relationships Education Policy include:

- Education Act (1996)
- Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010),
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21st century (2014)
- Keeping children safe in education – Statutory safeguarding guidance (2016)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

Roles and Responsibilities

The Relationships Education programme in our school is led by Mrs Kirsty Martin. The school governor representative responsible for the Relationships Education programme is Sheetal Mistry
All staff members involved in teaching and supporting the Relationships Education curriculum will be trained and supported by Mrs Kirsty Martin and Mrs Karen Tearle.

Our Relationships Education Curriculum

Our inclusive Relationships curriculum supports the objectives set out by the PSHE Association which meet the statutory requirements for Key Stage 1 and 2. It forms a core part of our comprehensive Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

Our PSHE Scheme of Work, including Relationships Education, can be viewed via our PSHE website page.
Learning in Relationships Education lessons will link to learning in PSHE, RE and Science lessons.

Delivering the Curriculum

Our PSHE lessons are taught by staff who are trained in delivering the specific content of the lessons. Ground rules will be established in class and children reminded of these. Special consideration will be given when teaching particularly sensitive content and staff will be fully aware of the children in their class and how they might relate to the lesson content.

We aim to create and maintain a safe environment within which all children feel able to ask questions and discuss issues openly. For any child wishing to discuss something confidential, relating to the lesson content, an opportunity will be provided.

Distancing techniques will be employed in our Relationships Education, as with other areas of the PSHE curriculum, meaning that children are able to discuss fictional characters and scenarios, rather than discuss their own lives and experiences.
To meet the needs of all children and to make our lessons engaging, we aim to deliver our Relationships Education curriculum through a variety of teaching methods.

Assessment, Monitoring and Reporting

Self-assessment is an important part of learning in Relationships Education and PSHE. Children will reflect on their learning throughout the units. We highly value pupil voice and take into account the opinions and comments of our children about what they would like to learn.

Staff delivering the Relationships curriculum will critically reflect on their teaching and best practice will be shared through lesson observations, monitoring of planning and children's work and training opportunities.

Comments on children's learning and progress in Relationships Education, as part of their learning in PSHE, will be reported to parents and carers via the annual school report.

Safeguarding

Teachers are aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. In this instance, teachers will consult with the designated safeguarding lead and in his/her absence, their deputy.

Safeguarding lead … Mrs Karen Tearle

Safeguarding deputy …Mr Darren Green

Visitors and external agencies which support the delivery of Relationships Education will be required to adhere to the school's safeguarding policy and policies relating to the subjects they are teaching or contributing towards.

Engaging Stakeholders

This policy will be available to view on our school website by all stakeholders.

We are committed to working closely with parents and carers and we do this by: parent/carer surveys, workshops, communication about when Relationships lessons will be taking place and links to other websites on school website.
Parents cannot withdraw their child from Health and Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe. Parents and carers do have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE with the exception of the objectives included in National Curriculum science. Those considering this option are asked to speak with relevant teachers or Mrs Kirsty Martin.

Links to Other Policies

Our Relationships Education Policy links to the PSHE policy.

Reviewing the Policy

This policy will be reviewed on a biannual basis by … Mrs Kirsty Martin (PSHE Subject Leader)
This will ensure that information is accurate and up-to-date and that the views of all stakeholders are heard and considered regularly.

Reviewed by K. Martin May 2023

Policy Review Date: May 2025