



The Bemrose School

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

Approved by:

Date:

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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

Pupils can develop an awareness of their own personal development and well-being.

2. Statutory requirements

In the **Primary Phase** we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

However, 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 The Bemrose School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

In the **Secondary Phase** we must provide RSE to all pupils as per the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

In teaching RSE, we must have regard to the guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

3. Definition

RSE is lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care, for family life. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes. Effective sex and relationship education is essential if young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their lives. RSE is about the social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity. It involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values. RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

4. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1, but it may need to be adapted as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum, considering the age, needs and feelings of the pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner, so they are fully informed and do not seek answers online. Pupil voice is used to inform planning. A KS3 and KS4 review through student focus groups takes place in the Summer 1 term annually.

Primary sex education will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

For more information about the curriculum, see the curriculum map in Appendix 1.

5. Delivery of RSE

In the Primary Phase, RSE is taught by the class teacher and delivered through the PSHE curriculum. In the Secondary Phase, RSE is taught within the PSHE curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are also taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

For Secondary pupils, stand-alone sex education sessions may be delivered by the school nurse.

Primary Phase

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

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

Secondary Phase

RSE focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds including:

- Families
- Respectful relationships, including friendships
- Online and media
- Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

Post-16

Delivered by a designated Citizenship teacher in Year 12 and Year 13. RSE content is covered through the following focus in lessons:

- Control in relationships
- Contraception
- STIs
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- LGBTQ rights

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).

6. Roles and responsibilities

6.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RSE policy and hold the Executive Headteacher to account for its implementation.

Reviewed Jan 2020

Reviewed April 2021

6.2 The Executive Headteacher

The Executive 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 (see section 7).

6.3 Staff

All 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 the non-statutory components of RSE

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 Executive Headteacher.

Primary classroom teachers are responsible for the delivery of the PSHE programme in EYFS, KS1 and KS2.

Humanities teachers and those with PSHE on their timetable are responsible for the delivery of KS3, KS4 and KS5 provision. Form tutors will explore elements of RSE with the pupils in their form. Learning walks take place to monitor delivery.

6.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

7. Parents' right to withdraw

Primary Phase

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

Secondary Phase

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the Executive Headteacher. This must specify the specific content area of the RSE curriculum for which the request is being forwarded.

A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The Executive Headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

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

A request which results in a withdrawal will have the duration of one academic year, in which time pupils will be covering different age appropriate RSE content. A new request form must be submitted for each academic year.

As of April 2021, there have been no parental withdrawal requests.

8. Training

The Humanities team will deliver and are familiarised with the RSE programme of study. Form tutors are trained on the pastoral nature of their role.

The Deputy Headteacher: Inclusion, or the lead teacher for PSHE may invite professionals from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

9. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the Head of the Primary Phase and an SLT line manager for PSHE

- Line management meetings with lead teachers, with responsibility for PSHE in both phases (see minutes with Executive Headteacher)
- Reviews of schemes of work and lesson observations.
- Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of the internal assessment system including learning walks and the internal faculty review process.

This policy will be reviewed by the Executive Headteacher. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.

This will correspond with the safeguarding audit.

Governors will monitor.

10. Covid-19 Interventions

Ensuring a consistent and thorough delivery for learners, elements of the Year 6 programme were absorbed in KS3 lessons as content on 'puberty and body changes'. These omissions in learning for 2020/21 were recognised and acted on. Key transition points were captured.

As a response to the absences from learning due to Covid-19, a recovery programme was adopted to ensure the RSE provision that was missed at KS2 was rescheduled in KS3.

Appendix 1: Curriculum map

Relationships and sex education curriculum map

YEAR GROUP	TOPIC/THEMES
EYFS	Myself and others Family networks Body awareness Hygiene
KS1 Year 1	Myself and others Body parts Family Friendships Choices
KS1 Year 2	Differences: Boys and girls Differences: male and female Naming body parts Everybody needs caring for Looking after the body
KS2 Year 3	Self esteem Challenging gender stereotypes Differences: male and female Family differences Decision making Safety
KS2 Year 4	Growing and changing Body changes and reproduction What is puberty? Thinking, feeling, doing – changing relationships Assertiveness Your questions answered

YEAR GROUP	TOPIC/THEMES
KS2 Year 5	Becoming men and women Puberty and hygiene Puberty (science) Menstruation education for girls Sexual reproduction (science) Building good relationships
KS2 Year 6	Puberty and reproduction Relationships Pregnancy Being a parent
KS3 Year 7	Identity Families Being safe
KS3 Year 8	Respectful relationships, including friendships Structure and function of the male and female reproductive systems (science) Menstrual cycle (science) Gametes, fertilisation, gestation and birth (science)
KS3 Year 9	Online, social media and body image Sexual relationships Sexual health
KS4 Year 10	Grooming and CSE Sexual relationships Sexual health
KS4 Year 11	Grooming and CSE Sexual relationships Sexual health (the topics are repeated, the content is different)

Appendix 2: By the end of year 6 pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
<p>Families and people who care about me</p>	<p>That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong</p> <p>How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed</p>
<p>Caring friendships</p>	<p>How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends</p> <p>The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties</p> <p>That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Respectful relationships	<p>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</p> <p>Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships</p> <p>The conventions of courtesy and manners</p> <p>The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive</p> <p>The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults</p>
Online relationships	<p>That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not</p> <p>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</p> <p>The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them</p> <p>How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met</p> <p>How information and data is shared and used online</p>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Being safe	<p>What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)</p> <p>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</p> <p>That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact</p> <p>How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know</p> <p>How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult</p> <p>How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard</p> <p>How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so</p> <p>Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources</p>

Appendix 2: By the end of year 11 pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families	<p>That there are different types of committed, stable relationships</p> <p>How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children</p> <p>What marriage is, including their legal status e.g. that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony</p> <p>Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into</p> <p>The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships</p> <p>The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting</p> <p>How to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend, intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others' relationships); and, how to seek help or advice, including reporting concerns about others, if needed</p>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Respectful relationships, including friendships	<p>The characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship</p> <p>Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships</p> <p>How stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice)</p> <p>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 people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs</p> <p>About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help</p> <p>That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control</p> <p>What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable</p> <p>The legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal</p>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Online and media	<p>Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online</p> <p>About online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online</p> <p>Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them</p> <p>What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online</p> <p>The impact of viewing harmful content</p> <p>That specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners</p> <p>That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail</p> <p>How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online</p>
Being safe	<p>The concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships</p> <p>How people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online)</p>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
<p>Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health</p>	<p>How to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship</p> <p>That all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g. physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing</p> <p>The facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women</p> <p>That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others</p> <p>That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex</p> <p>The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available</p> <p>The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage</p> <p>That there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help)</p> <p>How the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing</p> <p>About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment</p> <p>How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour</p> <p>How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment</p>

Appendix 3: KS3/4 Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Specific content/areas of the units of study for which request is being made			
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	