



WEST BOROUGH
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Relationships and Health Education Policy (from 2020)

Chair of Governors
Date agreed
Headteacher
Review date

Mrs K. Atkinson
February 2022
Mrs A. Crittenden
February 2024

This policy was approved by the Full Governing Body:

Date

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Signed- Headteacher

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Signed Chair of Governors

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Contents

1. Aims.....	3
2. Statutory requirements.....	3
3. Policy development.....	4
4. Definition	4
5. Curriculum.....	4
6. Delivery of RHE	4
7. Roles and responsibilities.....	5
8. Parents’ right to withdraw	5
9. Training	5
10. Monitoring arrangements.....	5
Appendix 1: Curriculum map	7
Appendix 2: By the end of primary school pupils should know.....	8
Appendix 3-Addressing possible impacts of Coronavirus	12

NB The DfE refer to RSE (Relationships and Sex Education), at West Borough this part of our curriculum is called RHE (Relationships and Health Education). This document will use the term RHE.

I. Aims

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE/ RHE) 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 and responsibility
- › Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- › Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- › Promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepare pupils for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life
- › RHE relates to our core values of Equality, Challenge, Resilience, Responsibility and Respect.

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](#).

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

At West Borough Primary School we teach RHE as set out in this policy.

Our policy is informed by existing DfE guidance:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (statutory guidance)
- Respectful School Communities: Self Review and Signposting Tool (a tool to support a whole school approach that promotes respect and discipline)
- Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (advice for schools, including advice for appropriate behavior between pupils)
- Equality Act 2010
- SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years (statutory guidance)
- Alternative Provision (statutory guidance)
- Mental health and Behaviour in Schools (advice for schools)
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying (advice for schools, including advice on cyberbullying)
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools (advice for schools)
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance (provides advice on avoiding discrimination in a variety of education contexts)
- Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (guidance for maintained schools on promoting basic important British values as part of pupil's spiritual, moral, social and culture (SMSC))

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils 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/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy
4. Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RHE
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

4. Definition

RHE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

RHE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

RHE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

The National Curriculum (2014) states:

‘Every state funded school must offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based and which:

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

5. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix I but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account 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 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 curriculum map in Appendix I.

6. Delivery of RHE

RHE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RHE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional. Pupils are also taught about the changes they will experience during puberty. Provision for girls who have started their periods has been made in school.

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care and support me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe, including safeguarding (NSPCC workshops ever 2 years- speak out and stay safe)

For more information about our RHE curriculum, see Appendices I 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, LGBTQ+ 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).

At West Borough the Jigsaw Programme is used. It offers a comprehensive Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to the children's learning in this vital curriculum area.

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RHE policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

7.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RHE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of RHE (see section 8).

7.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- › Delivering RHE in a sensitive way
- › Modelling positive attitudes to RHE
- › Monitoring progress
- › Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- › Manage difficult questions in line with what is set out in our graduated, age-appropriate programme of RSE. We acknowledge that pupils may be at different stages of development, leading to different types of questions and behaviours. Teaching will take into account these differences including, where appropriate, whole class teaching, small groups or 1:1 discussions.
- › Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory components of RHE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RHE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RHE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher.

7.4 Pupils

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

8. 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 RHE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher.

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

9. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RHE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RHE.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RHE is monitored in line with the monitoring policy. This will be carried out by the RHE Subject Leader and the Senior Leadership Team through: monitoring arrangements, such as planning scrutinies, assessments, learning walks and drop ins.

Pupils' development in RHE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems. This policy will be reviewed by Laura Wheaton, RHE Leader, every 2 years. At every review, the policy will be approved by the Governing Body.

Appendix I: Curriculum map

Relationships and Health education whole school approach Year 1-6 (EYFS use ELGs)

TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	CONTENT
One	Being Me in My World	Includes understanding my own identity and how I fit well in the class, school and global community.
Two	Celebrating Difference	Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and understanding
Three	Dreams and Goals	Includes goal-setting, aspirations, who do I want to become and what would I like to do for work and to contribute to society
Four	Healthy Me	Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices, sleep, nutrition, rest and exercise
Five	Relationships	Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills bereavement and loss
Six	Changing Me	Includes Relationships and Sex Education in the context of coping positively with change

Appendix 2: By the end of primary school pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW	COVERED THROUGH WHICH ASPECT OF JIGSAW
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 <i>lifelong</i> (NB- <i>Marriage in England and Wales is available to both opposite sex and same sex couples. The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 extended marriage to same sex couples in England and Wales. The ceremony through which a couple get married may be civil or religious.</i>) • How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference • Being Me in My World
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference • Being Me in My World

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW	COVERED THROUGH WHICH ASPECT OF JIGSAW
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference • Being Me in My World
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference

Physical health and mental well-being education in Primary schools – DfE Guidance

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing. Teachers should be clear that mental well-being is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.

By the end of primary school:

Topic	Pupils should know	Covered through which aspect of Jigsaw
Mental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health. • that there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations. • how to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings. • how to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate. • the benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, voluntary and service-based activity on mental well-being and happiness. • simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family and the benefits of hobbies and interests. • isolation and loneliness can affect children and that it is very important for children to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support. • that bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental well-being. • where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for seeking support), including whom in school they should speak to if they are worried about their own or someone else's mental well-being or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online). • it is common for people to experience mental ill health. For many people who do, the problems can be resolved if the right support is made available, especially if accessed early enough. 	<p>Healthy Me Relationships Changing Me Celebrating Difference</p>
Internet safety and harms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that for most people the internet is an integral part of life and has many benefits. • about the benefits of rationing time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical wellbeing. • how to consider the effect of their online actions on others and knowhow to recognise and display respectful behaviour online and the importance of keeping personal information private. • why social media, some computer games and online gaming, for example, are age restricted. • that the internet can also be a negative place where online abuse, trolling, bullying and harassment can take place, which can have a negative impact on mental health. • how to be a discerning consumer of information online including understanding that information, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted. • where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Healthy Me
Physical health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle. • the importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example, walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise. • the risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity). • how and when to seek support including which adults to speak to in school if they are worried about their health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me

Healthy eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what constitutes a healthy diet (including understanding calories and other nutritional content). • the principles of planning and preparing a range of healthy meals. • the characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating (including, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health). 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking 	<p>Covered during Safety week (every 2 years)</p>
Health and Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss, or unexplained changes to the body. • about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer. • the importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and that a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn. • about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including regular check-ups at the dentist. • about personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of handwashing. • the facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me
Basic first aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary. • concepts of basic first-aid, for example dealing with common injuries, including head injuries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me
Changing adolescent body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes. • about menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing Me • Healthy Me

Appendix 3-Addressing possible impacts of Coronavirus

Teachers should ensure pupils have opportunities to:

- develop coping skills and self-care techniques
- talk about their experiences during the outbreak
- have one-to-one conversations with trusted adults, if needed
- learn about topics related to coronavirus (e.g. how to stay alert)
- renew and develop friendships and peer groups
- take part in other enriching developmental activities

Safeguarding procedures have already been updated.

Supporting children who are bereaved

Children who have lost a loved one to coronavirus (COVID-19) are likely to be dealing with strong emotions (e.g. fear that they are going to die). If a bereaved child chooses to speak to a teacher about their feelings/experiences, the teacher should inform a DSL and:

- communicate with the child's family/caregiver to understand the kind of information and support they are happy for staff to provide
- allow the child to talk freely to explore their emotions
- talk honestly, factually and non-judgmentally at a level appropriate to the child