



Walhampton

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Relationships and Sexual Education Policy

April 2021

Governors committee normally reviewing:	Education
Effective from:	April 2021
Date last formally approved:	May 2021
Date of next review	Sept 2022
Person responsible for implementation and monitoring:	Head of PSHEE
Related policies and procedures:	PHSEE Policy

1. Policy Intent

This policy responds to the Department for Education's statutory guidance: 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education'. From September 2021, this requires that Relationships Education be taught to primary years and Relationships and Sex Education to secondary years. Further, Health Education is made compulsory in all state-funded schools. Whilst the Health Education guidance might be useful, it is not compulsory in independent schools, who instead must continue to provide PSHEE in order to meet the Independent School Standards as set out in the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014.

2. Right to be excused from sex education

Age-appropriate Sex Education will be provided to pupils in Years 7 - 8. Parents may request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of this aspect of the school's statutory RSE provision. Such requests will be made to the Head, who may wish to discuss the request with parents and, in certain circumstances with the child, in order to clarify the purpose of the curriculum, and the possible detrimental effects of being withdrawn, including any social or emotional effects of being withdrawn, and the risk of hearing other children's distorted versions of the content taught after the sessions, and ensure an informed decision. Following this discussion, and barring exceptional circumstances, which will where relevant give consideration to SEND, the school should respect the parental request.

The Head will automatically grant any request for a child to be withdrawn from any sex education delivered to Years 3 - 6, unless it forms a part of the science curriculum.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or the content outlined in the science curriculum - in accordance with the National curriculum guidelines.

3. Delivery of the Curriculum

Relationships and Sex Education is delivered as part of the school's PSHEE programme, in Science lessons as required and reinforced in many aspects of school life.

The school follows the guidelines of the DFEE with respect to the teaching of RSE (Key stage 3) and RE (Key stages 1 and 2). The objective of Relationships and Sex Education is to help to inform and support the pupils during their physical, emotional and moral development within the wider range of the school policies, and to ensure they are equipped to transfer their understanding to their respective senior schools.

- The school recognises the need to supply accurate information and support to the children at the appropriate stages of their development.
- The school aims to promote self-esteem, self-awareness and a sense of moral responsibility as a basis for informed choice and the fostering of a just and democratic society.
- The school recognises that children need a framework of guidelines within which they can operate and they should know what values are considered important in our community.

- The expectations and responsibilities of parents in respect of Relationships and Sex Education are acknowledged and parents have right to withdraw their children from this part of the curriculum - but cannot withdraw their child from the National Statutory government guidelines on relationships and health education, with a formal letter to the Head. Parents will have access to the RSE curriculum map prior to teaching so that a united school and home approach can be adopted. The Head of PSHEE will have an 'Open door' policy for parents who wish to discuss issues arising from RSE at greater length.
- Walhampton believes that it is important that RSE is seen as a shared responsibility between parents and the school, and that communication between the two is imperative and in the best interests of the individual pupils.

Lessons will provide age-appropriate content. Sensitive subject matter that corresponds with puberty, for example, may be taught in gender groups if appropriate in order for a more conducive environment for Q&A to be created, but all information will be imparted to all pupils. These lessons will also be 'team taught' for seniors with a school nurse whenever possible to ensure safeguarding and accuracy are at the forefront of lesson planning and implementation. There will also be regular communications with the boarding and pastoral team to ensure the health and wellbeing of each child is nurtured and monitored. The School regularly monitors the delivery of the Relationships and Sex Education programme.

4. Growing and Changing Overview

Year Group	Coverage & Progression
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human lifecycle and stages • Identify 'puberty' as a time when a child grows into an adolescent • Recognise some overall physical changes of puberty such as changes in body shape & deeper voice • Emotional changes • Everybody goes through puberty • Puberty is a gradual change
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human lifecycle and stages • Correct names for the males and female reproductive organs, terminology of penis and vagina • Understanding of puberty being a time of preparing the human body for reproduction • Identifying that puberty happens at different times for different people
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect of puberty on bodies male and female • How bodies grow and change • Explanation of menstruation and ejaculation and how to manage • Explanation of how feelings, emotions and relationships change during puberty • Help and support strategies • Q&A session with medical team
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlining puberty with details of sex cells • Menstruation and ejaculation • How a baby is made and grows including sexual intercourse • Body parts connection to conception

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Love and committed relationships ● Consent and protecting your body ● Hygiene and emotional changes ● Roles and responsibilities of parents and carers
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical and emotional changes in puberty with strategies to manage ● Periods and erections ● Detailed personal hygiene ● Body parts connected to sexual intercourse ● Consent with support and help ● Family relationships ● Pregnancy and contraception overview ● Acknowledgement of masturbation and myths surrounding it ● Types of sexuality
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pressure in relationships and amongst peers, with strategies ● LGBTQ+ ● Contraception and STI overview ● Readiness for an intimate relationship ● Legal and moral responsibilities of sex ● Intimacy- risks, types and consequences ● Trust and friendship in relationships ● Levels of intimacy ● Importance of communication and strategies for improving it

5. Policy review

The delivery of RSE is monitored, across the school in accordance to the Government guidelines. The Head of PSHEE will ensure that each school meets the statutory requirement for RSE in consultation with PSHE Association and school Governors.

This policy and the subsequent RSE curriculum of the school will be developed in consultation with staff, pupils, parents and carers. At Walhampton the named and dedicated lead for delivery within the school. This would normally be a Head of PSHEE Mrs Kate Cullum, Deputy Head and Head.

The consultation and policy development process will be directed by the school within the annual review cycle. The process will involve the following steps:

- 1: Review. The Head of PSHEE with the Head will gather all relevant information including national and local guidance.
- 2: Staff consultation. All school staff will be given the opportunity to review the policy and curriculum before making recommendations.
- 3: Parent / carer consultation. All parents and carers will be given the opportunity to attend a working party to review the policy and curriculum. At this meeting parents and carers will also be given the opportunity to review examples of the materials that might be used within RSE lessons.
- 4: Pupil consultation.