

Rationale and ethos.

This policy covers Redhill's approach to the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education. This policy has been produced in consultation with staff, governors and parents/carers.

We believe that a positive and honest approach to Relationships and Sex Education is essential for young people to develop into safe, happy and successful adults. Pupils need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships. We aim to deliver high quality, evidence-based and age-appropriate teaching that helps prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The central principle of our Relationships and Sex Education is empowerment. We aim to equip pupils with the knowledge, confidence and attributes necessary to be able to say no to the types of relationships they don't want and yes to the ones they do want. This in turn will ensure that they have healthy, fulfilling relationships and that they are safeguarded from being persuaded, exploited or coerced into anything that they are not ready for or do not want to do. In addition, our Sex Education will ensure that pupils are aware of the realities of sex and do not rely on the internet or hearsay for their sexual information, that they know how to stay safe and where to access support.

Legislation

We are required to teach relationships and sex education as part of the revised Department for Education guidance that states from September 2020 all schools must deliver RSE in Secondary schools.

In teaching Relationships Education and RSE, we will ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect. We will meet the needs of all pupils irrespective of learning need, sexual orientation, ethnicity and/ or religious belief.

Right to be excused from sex education (commonly referred to as the right to withdraw)

Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE. *(see appendix 1 for further details).*

Before granting any such request a member of SLT or the Subject Lead will discuss the request with parents and, as appropriate, with the child to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum and any possible effects of withdrawal. Once those discussions have taken place, except in exceptional circumstances, we will respect the parents' request to withdraw the child, up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, we will make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.

This process is the same for pupils with SEND. However there may be exceptional circumstances where the head teacher may want to take a pupil's specific needs arising from their SEND into account when making this decision.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education.

Roles and responsibilities

The RSE programme will be led by Louise Griffiths, Head of RS and PSHE. The Head teacher is responsible for the line management of the programme. RSE teachers are responsible for delivering the lessons as planned by the Head of Department.

Teaching staff receive support to deliver this subject through Continuous Professional development. This includes Teachers notes for lessons, workshops and training sessions throughout the school year. Some lessons may be delivered by the Head of Department via video.

Working with parents

We are committed to working with parents and carers about the nature of our RSE curriculum and regularly ask for feedback about the programme.

We work closely with parents to ensure that they are fully aware of what is being taught. The PSHE curriculum plan, which includes RSE, is available to everyone on the school website. We also provide additional resources and support to parents by signposting to relevant agencies via our school website and social media.

As part of our whole school approach to RSE, Parent Information and opportunities for parents to view the materials and resources used will be available at parent's evenings. Parents are welcome to request an appointment to come into school to view lesson resources at other times. We will notify parents when Relationships and Sex education will be taught, by letter.

External agencies

To ensure high quality provision for all of our pupils, we use professional agencies to support the delivery of some content.

Our lesson resources are sourced from national organisations and those recommended by the Department for Education and the PSHE Association.

We currently access RSE resources from:

Stonewall

Brook

Do...Durex

NSPCC

Childnet

CEOP

Women's Aid

Sex Education Forum

FPA

Barnados

Rise Above

Always/Tampax

Appendix 1.

Sex Education refers to the following lessons:

The importance of Pleasure
Safer Sexual activities
Sexual problem solving
Pornography: reality v fiction.
Sex discussions.

Health education refers to the following topics:

Contraception
Abortion
FGM
Sexually Transmitted Infections
Pregnancy choices.
Pregnancy, birth and miscarriage
Fertility and menopause

Relationships education refers to the following topics:

Making and changing friends.
Good friendships.
Romance and healthy relationships.
Relationship abuse and challenges, handling unwanted attention.
Break ups.
Families and parenting.
Exploitation – spot the signs.
The risks of forming relationships online.
Asexuality, abstinence and celibacy.
Marriage and long term commitments.
Managing relationship and family changes, including relationship breakdown, separation and divorce.
Domestic Violence and how to overcome challenges with accessing support
Prejudice and living in a diverse society.
Anti-bullying.
Knowing your principles and boundaries.
Conflict resolution.
Love

Essential Safeguarding lessons include:

FGM.
The harms of pornography.
Sending sexual images.
Sexting.