



*All policies are developed to be compliant with and supportive of the ethos and values of WWTrust and Westhaven School*

**September 2019**



## **Relationships and Sex Education Policy**

### **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 safe, healthy relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Provide pupils with the correct information about the law, consent and privacy

### **Statutory requirements**

Under new Government proposals, all pupils will study compulsory health education as well as new reformed relationships education in primary school and relationships and sex education in secondary school.

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

As a maintained secondary school we must provide RSE to all pupils as per the Children and Social work act 2017. 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.

### **Definition**

RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity. SRE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values. RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

### **Delivery of SRE**

RSE is taught within the personal, social, and health Education (PSHE) curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE). Pupils in year 9 and across KS4 also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional from the school nursing team each year if they have suitable availability.

Across all Key Stages, pupils will be supported with developing the following skills:

- Communication, including how to manage healthy relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work

These skills are taught within the context of family life.

Further in depth coverage can be found within the PSHE Scheme of work under the 'relationships' and 'health and wellbeing' strands.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

#### ***The governing board***

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

#### ***The headteacher***

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school in partnership with the PSHE subject lead teacher, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE.

#### ***Staff***

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/non-science] 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 PSHE subject leader, who in turn would consult the headteacher.

***Pupils***

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

**Parents' right to withdraw**

As a school we notify parents by letter when particular aspects of relationships and sex education is taught. Parents have the rights to withdraw their children from the non-statutory, non-science components of RSE. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education lessons, they should discuss this with the headteacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. The school will then support the child in any way in which the parents desire. The RSE policy along with the PSHE scheme of work is available on the school website and printed copies can be made available upon request.

**Monitoring arrangements**

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the schools chosen PSHE subject lead through curriculum reviews, planning scrutinies, observations questionnaires, networking meetings, and reports to Governors.

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by the PSHE subject lead every two years. At every review, the policy will be approved by governing body and the headteacher.

**Monitoring and Review**


**Written:** March 2019  
**Review Date:** March 2021

**Signed by Chair of  
Governors/ Chair of  
Committee:**

**Date:**

**Date of Next Review:** March 2021

### History of Document

Version No.	Author/ Owner	Date Reviewed	Approved by Governors on	Comments	Next Review Date
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