



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

September 2021



**Relationships and Sex Education Policy
- DRAFT -**

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

'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education' (June 2019) provided statutory guidance to schools and it is now mandatory for all pupils to study health education as well as relationships education in primary school and relationships and sex education in secondary school.

Primary schools are not required to teach sex education, beyond the Science curriculum, but the new guidance recommends that primary schools have a sex education programme. We have decided at Westhaven to deliver age and developmentally appropriate Sex Education to our primary aged children.

As a maintained secondary school, the new guidance requires us to provide RSE to all secondary-aged pupils.

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. RSE 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. The scheme of work we follow was developed by the Healthy Schools Partnership and Health Education Partnership (HEP). Our scheme of work aims to develop skills and attributes such as resilience, self-esteem, risk-management, team working and critical thinking in the context of learning grouped into three core themes: health and wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world. The PSHE scheme of work can be found in full on our school website.

Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE). To supplement the core programme, 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 are taught. Parents have the right 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. If the parent still wants to withdraw their child, having discussed it with the Head, the school will then work with the parents to support their child, if required. 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 school's chosen PSHE subject lead through curriculum reviews, planning scrutiny, 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 the governing body and the headteacher.

Monitoring and Review

Written: September 2021

Review Date: September 2023

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

Date of Next Review: September 2023

