

RSHE Policy

Policy Reviewed:	Autumn 2023
Next Review:	Autumn 2024

Sex and Relationships Education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving friendships and relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

RSHE (Relationship, Social, Health and Economic Education) policy including Statutory Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education

Purpose

The school's objective is to support and help our pupils through their physical, emotional and moral development. We will help our pupils to move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood respecting themselves and others in the process. Most of the Sex and Relationship Education programme is taught through a distinct lesson, but other subjects, science in particular, have an important input into the whole programme. Effective Sex and Relationship Education does not encourage sexual experimentation. It teaches young people to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others. Our students will be enabled to mature, to build up their confidence and self-esteem, and understand the reasons for delaying sexual activity. Students will be given accurate information and helped to develop skills to enable them to understand difference and respect themselves and others, and for the purpose also of preventing and removing prejudice.

Policy into practice

Sex and relationship education is integrated into the curriculum through a distinct one-hour lesson per week. This will be through timetabled lessons for Years 10 through to 12. The delivery of RSHE will be led by teaching staff but other professionals may be brought in to support the learning in these lessons, namely; the Metropolitan Police, Spark2Life, School Nursing Service. The RSHE curriculum and teaching and learning is regularly monitored and evaluated by the senior leadership team, through learning walks, observations and a termly work scrutiny.

Compliance with Statutory Requirements

- Our policy complies guidance from the DfE under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 makes RSE and Health Education statutory in all secondary schools and Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (statutory guidance) (2019).

Students' withdrawal from RSHE

Any parent/carer has the right to withdraw their child from some elements of RSHE lessons in the context of the lesson, but not when it occurs in the statutory science curriculum.

The parental right to withdraw your child applies up until three terms before your child turns 16. After that point, if the young person wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, they have the statutory right to request to do so without their parents being notified or seeking their permission. At these times, the Academy will make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those three terms.

These are the only lessons that students can be withdrawn, with all topics being covered in Y10-Y12:

- Contraception: access and advice
- Assessing readiness/appropriateness for sexual activity
- Common STIs – role of contraception in avoidance
- Support for unintended pregnancy

Parents/carers do not have the right to withdraw their child from any lessons on Relationships or Health Education. If a parent wishes to remove their child, then a letter signed by their parent should be addressed to the Principal and alternative work will be set.

Engaging Parents/Carers and the Right to Withdraw from Sex Education

On entry to the school, parents are invited to read the RSHE policy, including our approach to Relationships and Sex Education. This helps to establish consultation and a partnership with parents, which reinforces the dual responsibility for RSHE learning.

We take every opportunity to inform and involve parents/carers in the following ways:

- By making our commitment clear in the school induction programme and entry meetings
- By inviting parents/carers to discuss personal development with Form Tutors when their child enters the Academy and at Parent Evenings.
- By inviting parents/carers to a meeting to discuss RSHE in the Academy as required.

As such, parents are specifically made aware of their right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of the sex education we deliver within statutory RSHE, but not from those lessons which fall under the statutory science curriculum.

The guidance should be read in conjunction with:

- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (statutory guidance) (2019)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (statutory guidance) (2021)
- Equality Act 2010 and schools (2010)
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools (advice for schools) (2018)
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying (advice for schools, including advice on cyberbullying) (2017)
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools (advice for schools) (2021)
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance (provides advice on avoiding discrimination in a variety of educational contexts)
- Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (guidance for maintained schools on promoting basic important British values as part of students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) (2018)

Year Group	Overview
Year 10	Guest Speakers from the Police and School Nursing Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mental Health Concerns - Staying Safe - Relationships - Pornography - Abuse and Harassment - Careers and Destinations - Health and Safety at work - Applying for work - Diversity and Discrimination - Extremism
Year 11	Guest Speakers from the Police and School Nursing Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keeping safe - Preparing for adulthood - Fraud and Cyber crime - Relationships - Sexual Health - Families and Parenting - Healthy Relationships - Self – examination - Adoption - Pregnancy - Grief and loss
Year 12	Guest speakers from the Police and Spark2Life: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staying safe - AQA accredited course - Writing a CV - Applying for work - Healthy Relationships - Parenting - Pregnancy - Professional Conduct - Contraception - Emotional / physical / Social / Legal consequences
Year 13	Guest speakers from the Police and Spark2Life: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - British Values - Staying safe - Knife Crime - Online Safety - Writing a CV - Applying for work - Applying for University - Professional Conduct - Interviewing Techniques - Applying for University and Apprenticeships