

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

FOR

EAGLE PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

Date adopted	September 2022
Next Review	September 2023



Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Explain the definition, aims and objectives of RSE.
- Describe what we teach and the approaches we use.
- This policy helps ensure that the whole school community (pupils, parents/carers, staff, and governors) have a shared understanding of this important area of the curriculum.
- This Policy ensures that children understand healthy and respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online.

Definition

The term Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is used in this policy rather than Sex Education. This is to stress that our approach goes beyond the provision of biological information to also focus on clarifying attitudes and values, and developing self-esteem and the skills to manage relationships.

Sex and relationships education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health.

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 relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

Legal Requirements

In September 2020 The Department for Education advised that Relationships Education is to become a requirement for all primary pupils and stated that teaching materials must be age appropriate and developmentally appropriate. It must be taught sensitively and inclusively, with respect to backgrounds and beliefs of pupils and parents while always with the aim of providing pupils with the knowledge they need.'

Content & Delivery of RSE

RSE is delivered in our curriculum through the SoSafe program twice a week throughout the whole Key Stage (KS1 & KS2). This program is designed to promote the social safety of people with moderate to severe intellectual disability. A poorly developed sense of appropriate personal boundaries between themselves and others is a major factor in their vulnerability to physical and sexual abuse and therefore a key learning within our curriculum.

SoSafe teaches the type and degree of verbal and physical intimacy appropriate with different categories of people, and at appropriate ages, ways of moving into intimate relationships in a safe and measured manner (i.e. meeting people, becoming friends, becoming close friends, becoming boy/girlfriends, and becoming partners).

Because our students (KS1 & KS2) have not reached the stage of sexual education yet, contents of the program that show explicit symbols and information concerning *boy/girlfriend*, *intercourse* and *partners* will not be taught at this stage.

To ensure that all of our students access the program successfully, we have differentiated *I can* targets according to the three developmental stages that we follow in our school (eggs, caterpillars and butterflies).

Roles and responsibilities

The AHT Curriculum lead is responsible for coordinating RSE throughout the school and will:

- Support staff through training and follow up sessions.
- Ensure appropriate outside agencies or SLT are used to support teaching and learning if relevant.
- Ensure parents and carers are made aware of the policy, practice and delivery of RSE within the PSHE programme.
- Ensure parents and carers are informed of their right to withdraw their child from Sex Education
- Report to Governors about RSE across the school.
- Teachers are responsible for delivering the program in the classrooms and Ensure that TAs follow their guidance.

Involvement of parents, pupils and staff

At the beginning of each academic year we run an information session about the SoSafe program at school for parents. This session provides detailed information about the program and ample opportunity for them to ask questions and give feedback. We will also share a copy of this policy.

Staff take part in training sessions and provide feedback about the impact of the program in the lives of our pupils. Pupils provide feedback verbally when appropriate and data about

their progress is recorded on Onwards and Upwards (O&U), assessed and evaluated to analyse the impact of the program.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Following our assessment policy, RSE will be monitored and evaluated at school through a variety of processes. Lesson observations to ensure the correct implementation of the program and exhaustive analysis of the data recorded on O&U to assess and evaluate the impact of the program in our school.

Right to withdrawal

- Parents of children of primary age cannot withdraw their children from Relationships Education.
- Parents of children of secondary age can withdraw their children from Sex Education (non-statutory content) up until the third term before their 16th birthday.

If parents wish to withdraw, this will need to be in writing and addressed to the Assistant Headteacher of Curriculum.

Reviewed by: Assistant Headteacher - Curriculum

Authorised by: Headteacher

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. [Name]', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Date: September 2022