

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Parents and Carers Consultation



‘Parents should be given every opportunity to understand the purpose and content of Relationships Education and RSE. Good communication and opportunities for parents to understand and ask questions about the school’s approach help increase confidence in the curriculum.’

DfE statutory guidance



What has changed and Why?

- 20 years since the last review of the curriculum - the world (and how we interact with each other) has changed
- New - Relationships Education in Primary Schools
- Previous recommendations for teaching Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE), are now part of the National Curriculum.
- Sex Education in Primary Schools remains optional, although in Year 5 and 6 the Science Curriculum forms part of what might be considered as sex education - puberty and reproduction.

Ofsted review of RSE nationally:

- Required improvement in over a third of schools - was not systematic enough
- Found children were not adequately prepared for puberty
- In primary schools, too much emphasis was placed on friendships and relationships

Why is RSE Important?

- Entitlement
- Puberty is starting earlier- for some children by age 9
- Addressing misconceptions
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Safeguarding
 - Grooming
 - Child Sexual Exploitation
 - Abuse
 - Sexting
 - Online pornography

What is Effective RSE?

- Age appropriate
- Based on needs of pupil (see later slides)
- Progressive
- Inclusive
- Delivered by trained staff in a safe environment
- Prepares children adequately for puberty in a timely way
- Prepares children for adult life
- Promotes positive relationships

RSE Topics

1. Families and people who care for me
2. Caring friendships
3. Respectful relationships
4. Online relationships
5. Being safe

Health Topics

1. Mental well-being
2. Internet safety and harms
3. Physical health and fitness
4. Healthy eating
5. Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
6. Health and prevention
7. Basic first aid
8. Changing adolescent body

Science Curriculum

As part of the Science curriculum we teach the following statutory objectives that build understanding about growth and reproduction:

Year One

- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

Year Two

- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults they should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs.

Year Five and Year Six

- Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- They should learn about the changes experienced in puberty

Our Policy

The RSE policy includes the following information:

- How the programme is taught
- How religious backgrounds of pupils are taken into account
- How pupils with special educational needs (SEN) are supported
- How sensitive topics are approached
- When sex education is taught - including clarity for parents on the right to withdraw
- Reference to any requirements on schools in law e.g. the Equality Act
- When the policy will be updated and who approves it
- Topic specified by the DFE are attached as an appendix to the policy

Implementation

- The Government has said that from 1 September 2020 to the end of the spring term 2021, schools should assess how prepared they are and should commence teaching as soon as practically possible.
- Schools should engage parents on their Relationships Education or RSE policy as well as plan their curriculum provision.
- By the start of the summer term 2021, all schools should have begun teaching Health Education, Relationships Education or RSE.
- Our leadership team have attended a number of different workshops and Government led training days to ensure we are up to date and working in the right way to provide the highest quality PSHE curriculum
- We have adapted our curriculum to ensure that it is up to date with the new guidance and requirements

Your Rights as a Parent

- To be informed of the RSE curriculum and policy
- To be consulted about changes to these
- To withdraw your child from Sex education lessons (that are outside of/ additional to the Science National Curriculum)

Giving Feedback

Consultation window for parents and carers: 4th May to 22nd May

Ways to give us your feedback:

- Fill in the consultation form:
- Email (adminoffice@wickham-primary.hants.sch.uk)
- Arrange a telephone conversation by calling the main school office
- Write a letter for the attention of the school's senior leadership team