

Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) from September 2020

Parental Consultation Presentation - June 2020



Aims and Objectives:

- To explain about the new statutory RSE curriculum requirements.
- To gain views and opinions to inform our school's Relationship and Sex Education Policy.
- To inform you about the RSE we plan to deliver.
- To show you samples of the resources to be used.



The new guidance states:

‘Today’s children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline....children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way’

Secretary of State for Education, 2019

- ▶ From September 2020, all primary schools in England teaching ‘Relationships Education’ and ‘Health Education’
- ▶ Guidance recommends all primary schools have a Sex and Relationships Education Programme that ensures ‘boys and girls know about puberty and how a baby is born’

At Stoke Holy Cross Primary School, RSE and Health Education will be taught as part of our wider PSHE and Science curriculum.



Department
for Education

Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education

Statutory guidance for governing bodies,
proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior
leadership teams, teachers

GOOD RSE CONTRIBUTES TO:

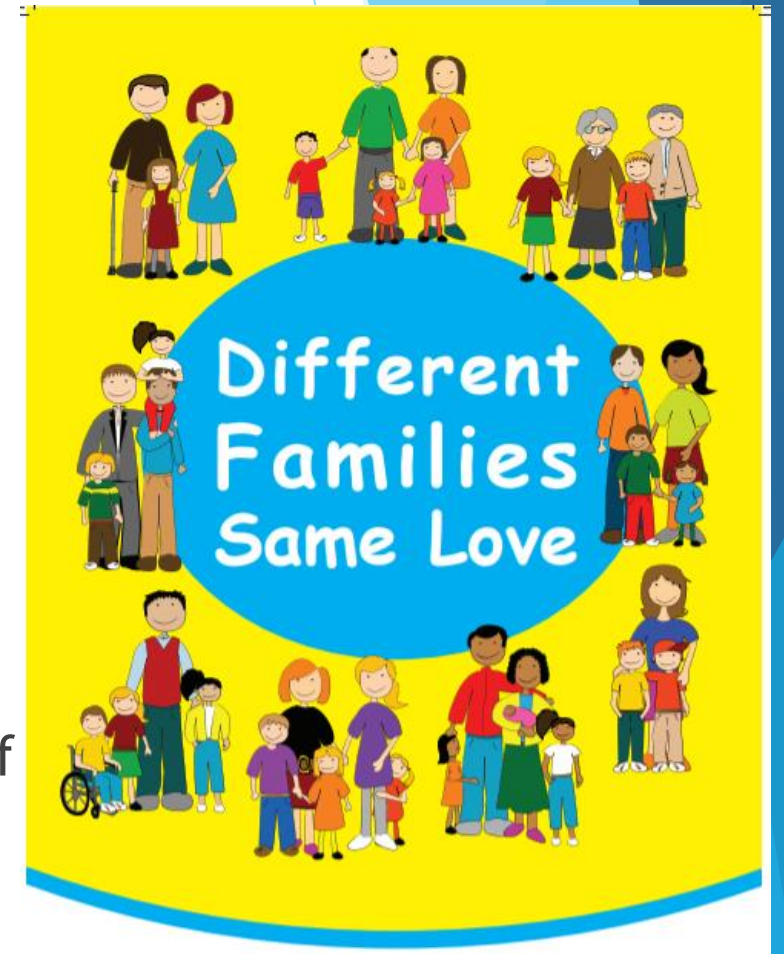
- ▶ positive ethos and environment for learning;
- ▶ safeguarding pupils (Children Act 2004), promoting their emotional wellbeing, and improving their ability to achieve in school;
- ▶ a better understanding of diversity and inclusion, a reduction in gender-based and homophobic prejudice, bullying and violence and an understanding of the difference between consenting and exploitative relationships;
- ▶ helping pupils keep themselves safe from harm, both on and offline, enjoy their relationships and build confidence in accessing services if they need help and advice;
- ▶ reducing early sexual activity, teenage conceptions, sexually transmitted infections, sexual exploitation and abuse, domestic violence and bullying.

Good and appropriate RSE takes away children's ignorance; not their innocence.

- ▶ Children are naturally curious about growing up, how their bodies work and how humans reproduce. Their questions need to be answered honestly, using the correct language and explanations appropriate for their age and maturity, thus avoiding unnecessary mystery, confusion, embarrassment and shame.
- ▶ Effective RSE provides balance to sometimes distorted messages about sex and gender roles in the media.
- ▶ It helps protect children by explaining boundaries and safety, and developing the language and understanding needed to recognise abusive behaviour and seek help.
- ▶ It also helps pupils to develop respectful and consensual attitudes and behaviours.

Will Relationships Education include LGBT relationships?

- ▶ The guidance states that pupils should be taught about the society in which they are growing up. These subjects are designed to foster respect for others and for difference, and educate pupils about healthy relationships.
- ▶ RSE should meet the needs of all pupils, whatever their developing sexuality or identity - at our school, this is planned to include age-appropriate teaching about different types of relationships in the context of the law.
- ▶ Primary schools can cover LGBT content if they consider it age appropriate to do so. We plan to include this at Stoke Holy Cross Primary School, through teaching about different types of family, including those with same sex parents.



Relationships Education will focus on:

- **Families and people who care for me**
 - Healthy family life
 - Diversity
 - Marriage and civil partnerships
 - Stable, caring relationships
- **Caring friendships**
 - Importance and characteristics of friendships
 - Healthy friendships
 - Ups and downs
 - Who to trust



Relationships Education

- **Respectful relationships**
 - Respecting others
 - Courtesy and manners
 - Self-respect
 - Anti-bullying
 - Stereotypes
 - Permission seeking



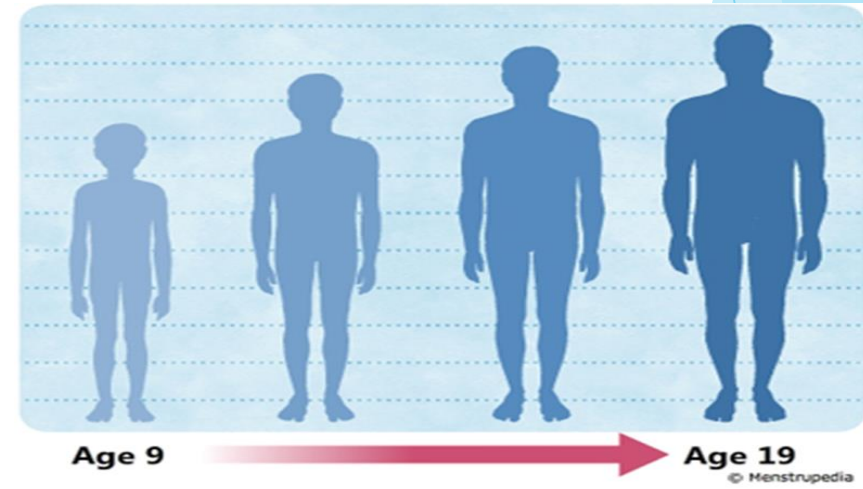
Relationships Education

- **Online relationships**
 - Behaviour online
 - Keeping safe
 - Be critical of friendships/information
 - How data is shared and used
- **Being safe**
 - Appropriate boundaries in friendships
 - Privacy and secrets
 - Each person's body belongs to them
 - Responding to adults they don't know
 - Getting help and advice



Health Education will focus on:

- Mental wellbeing
- Internet safety and harms
- Physical health and fitness
- Healthy eating
- Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- Health and prevention
- Basic first aid
- Changing adolescent body (before onset)



‘Sex Education’: Mis-named...and misleading

Sex Education in primary school is not really about sex!
The Government emphasis is on Relationships and Health Education.

‘Sex Education’ at primary school only includes:

1. Puberty

2. Human reproduction

Most of this is already covered in our Science curriculum...

What are the expectations for Science related to Sex Education?

As part of our Science curriculum we must teach the following statutory objectives:

▶ Year 1

- 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 2

- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults

(Non-statutory note: Pupils should be introduced to ...the processes of reproduction and growth in animals. The focus at this stage should be on questions that help pupils to recognise growth; they should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs)

Year 5

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals
- describe the changes as humans develop to old age

Year 6

- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

Parents' right to withdraw their children from Sex Education at primary school

Parents of primary-age children have the right to withdraw their children from some or all of Sex Education that is taught outside of the Science curriculum, but cannot withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education.

So, what can parents withdraw their children from?

- ▶ Learning how a baby is conceived and born (Year 6)
- Year 6 parents will be informed before Sex Education lessons are taught in the summer term.
- Parents will be encouraged to talk to the class teacher and/or view the teaching resources in order to inform any decisions regarding withdrawing their child.
- Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to Miss Chaney.

How is RSE taught?

- ▶ RSE is delivered by class teachers in mixed gender groups other than when it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups.
- ▶ PSHE Ground Rules are used in all PSHE and RSE lessons to create a safe and supportive learning environment.
- ▶ When discussing issues related to RSE, pupils are expected to treat others with respect and sensitivity.
- ▶ Pupils are able to ask anonymous questions. A question box or 'Ask-it basket' is available in every class. Teachers will answer questions as fully as they feel age and stage-appropriate, based on the level of knowledge demonstrated by pupils during the lesson.
- ▶ Correct medical vocabulary will be used throughout the RSE and PSHE curriculum.
- ▶ RSE is delivered through a varied range of activities including circle time, active teaching and learning, role play/scenarios, card sorting and discussions.
- ▶ All pupils will regularly be made aware of how they can access help and support.
- ▶ We will ensure that where a pupil indicates that they may be vulnerable and at risk, they will get appropriate support by staff members following the schools safeguarding/child protection policies.

Why is it so important to teach children the real names of their body parts?

- ▶ When children know the correct name for their body parts, they are better able to tell doctors about their needs. For example, if they're having pain or another problem, they feel both able and comfortable to talk about it.
- ▶ Children are better able to tell someone, whether a trusted adult, a social worker, or a doctor, when someone has touched them inappropriately. Without proper terminology, children have a very hard time telling someone about inappropriate touching.
- ▶ Teaching children the appropriate terms for their body parts is important for reasons of self-esteem, confidence, and self-love. It helps children develop a healthy, more positive body image. It also gives children the correct language for understanding their bodies and asking questions about development.

Answering children's questions

- ▶ Children are curious, they ask questions!
 - Our teachers will have planned lessons however as with any other learning children will have their own questions and will want to clarify things. We cannot always anticipate what children may ask so we use a range of strategies to help us.
- ▶ Our strategies:
 - Group agreement - No personal questions
 - Question box - Allows time for the teacher to think of an age-appropriate answer
 - Whole class answers
 - Private answers
 - Involve parents/carers

The teachers may feel that some questions are best answered in a private conversation with a child or they may feel they want to involve parents/carers. Teachers will use their professional judgement when answering questions in an age-appropriate way.

Partnership with parents

- ▶ We want to work in partnership with our parents, we do this in several ways;
 - Consult with you whenever we change our programme
 - Support you to understand the content and delivery of our programme
 - Let you know when RSE will be taught
 - Let you know how you are able to withdraw your child from RSE lessons

What happens next?

Please view the draft RSE policy on the school website. This sets out the proposed RSE curriculum, which is part of our wider PSHE curriculum.

The wider PSHE curriculum can also be viewed on the school website.

We welcome your comments, questions and feedback via email to the school office (office@stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.uk) by Monday 6th July 2020.