

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

Introduction

We are required to teach Relationships Education as part of our PSHE curriculum. Current regulations and guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) state that from September 2020, all schools must deliver Relationships Education.

Definition

Relationships and Sex Education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. Some aspects are taught in science, and others are taught as part of personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE).

A comprehensive programme of RSE provides accurate information about the body, reproduction, sex, and sexual health. It also gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline.

Yeadon Westfield takes its responsibility to provide relevant, effective and responsible RSE to all of its pupils as part of the school's personal, social, health, economic (PSHE) education curriculum very seriously. The school wants parents/carers and pupils to feel assured that RSE will be delivered at a level appropriate to both the age and development of pupils and to feel safe to voice opinions and concerns relating to the RSE provision.

We aim to provide high quality RSE in our school by ensuring that:

Relationships and Sex Education:

- is a partnership between home and school
- ensures pupils' views are actively sought to influence lesson planning and teaching
- starts early and is relevant to pupils at each stage in their development and maturity
- is taught by people who are trained and confident in talking about issues such as healthy and unhealthy relationships, equality, pleasure, respect, abuse, sexuality, gender identity, sex and consent
- includes the acquisition of knowledge, the development of life skills and respectful attitudes and values
- has sufficient time to cover a wide range of topics, with a strong emphasis on relationships, consent, rights, responsibilities to others, negotiation and communication skills, and accessing services
- helps pupils understand on and offline safety
- is inclusive of difference: gender identity, sexual orientation, special educational needs and disability, ethnicity, culture, age, faith or belief, or other life experience

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

- uses active learning methods, and is rigorously planned, assessed and evaluated
- helps pupils understand a range of views and beliefs about relationships
- teaches pupils about the law and their rights to confidentiality even if they are under 16, and is linked to school-based and community health services and organisations
- promotes equality in relationships, recognises and challenges gender inequality and reflects girls' and boys' different experiences and needs

Overall Aim

Our approach to RSE consists of a comprehensive and developmental programme of teaching and learning, which is delivered through the Islington Scheme of Work, You, Me, PSHE. Our RSE programme has a positive influence on the ethos, learning and relationships throughout our school. Our RSE programme helps pupils to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes they need to live confident, healthy, independent lives now and in the future.

All of this will be done in an age appropriate manner.

We aim to:

- raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence
- develop communication and assertiveness skills that can help them stay true to their values if challenged by others, their peers or what they see in the media
- teach pupils to be accepting of the different beliefs, cultures, religions, sexual orientations, gender identity, physical and mental abilities, backgrounds and values of those around them
- support pupils to lead a healthy and safe lifestyle, teaching them to care for, and respect, their bodies
- provide pupils with the right tools to enable them to seek information or support, should they need it
- teach pupils about consent and their right to say no, in an age appropriate manner
- to teach lessons that are sensitive to a range of views, values and beliefs
- ensure that staff teaching RSE remain neutral in their delivery whilst ensuring that pupils always have access to the learning they need to stay safe, healthy and understand their rights as individuals

We aim to do this by teaching and developing the following three main elements:

Attitudes and values:

- learn the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
- learn the value of family life, marriage and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

- learn the value of respect, love and care
- explore, consider and understand moral dilemmas
- develop critical thinking as part of decision-making

Personal and social skills:

- learn to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- develop self-respect and empathy for others
- learn to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- develop an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- manage conflict
- learn how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

Knowledge and understanding:

- learn and understand physical development at appropriate stages
- understand human sexuality, reproduction, emotions and relationships

Agreed Language

Pupils will be taught the anatomical terms for body parts. Slang or everyday terms used in certain social circles will be discussed; this will surround discussion about what is and isn't acceptable language to use. This will be shared with parents/carers via notes/emails home or the school policy. Vocabulary may be introduced at the discretion of the maturity of each cohort.

Year Group	Language used by adults and children in the teaching and learning process.
Early years Nursery and Reception	Pregnant, birth, vagina, penis,
KS1	Pregnant, birth, vagina, penis, breasts

We will also consider how pupils who are new to English will be supported in accessing and understanding the language used in RSE lessons.

Respectful Language

The use of respectful language which challenges sexism, homophobia and other forms of prejudice will be established in RSE but will have benefits for the whole school community, both in and out of lessons; it helps to ensure we are a happy and healthy place to learn. The casual use of homophobic, biphobic and transphobic language in school will be challenged and pupils will be made aware that using the word 'gay' to mean something is rubbish is wrong and

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

will not be tolerated. To tackle this, staff might say: 'you've used the word 'gay', but not in the right way.' As a result, pupils will hear references to, for example, 'gay,' 'straight' and different kinds of relationships as part of teaching and assemblies, for example when we talk about rights, respect or relationships.

Answering questions

We acknowledge that potentially sensitive or controversial issues will arise as pupils will naturally share information and ask questions. They will often ask their teachers or other adults questions which may go beyond what's being discussed in the lesson. We also acknowledge that children of the same age may be developmentally at different stages leading to differing types of questions or behaviours.

We can answer questions, where appropriate, relating to areas beyond the taught, planned curriculum for that age group, in a sensitive and age appropriate way, to the whole class or to the pupil or pupils who have asked the question. If a member of staff is uncertain about the answer to a question, or indeed whether they should answer it, they will seek guidance from the RSE leader/Child Protection Officer. Questions may be referred to parents/carers if it is not appropriate to answer them in school. We will also use a question box where questions may be asked anonymously.

When answering questions, we ensure that sharing personal information by adults, pupils or their families is discouraged. Where a question or comment from a pupil in the classroom indicates the possibilities of abuse or risk of harm, teachers will pass this information to the designated person for safeguarding and child protection, in line with school policy and procedures.

Responsibility for RSE

Teaching Staff

When teaching RSE staff will

- ensure that they are up to date with school's policy and curriculum requirements regarding RSE
- attend and engage in professional development training around RSE provision, including individual and whole staff training/inset, where appropriate
- encourage pupils to communicate concerns regarding their social, personal and emotional development in confidence and listen to their needs and support them
- follow the school's reporting systems if a pupil comes to a member of staff with an issue that they feel they are not able to deal with alone
- ensure that their personal beliefs and attitudes will not prevent them from providing balanced RSE in school

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

- tailor their lessons to suit all pupils in their class, across the whole range of abilities, faiths, beliefs, culture, gender identity and sexual orientations

Governors

The governing body plays an active role in monitoring, developing and reviewing the policy and its implementation in school.

Parents/carers

The role of parents in the development of their children's understanding about relationships is vital. Parents are the first teachers of their children. They have the most significant influence in enabling their children to grow and mature and to form healthy relationships. The school will:

- ensure that parents/carers know what will be taught and when and clearly communicate the fact that parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of RSE
- give parents/carers every opportunity to understand the purpose and content of Relationships Education and RSE
- encourage parents/carers to create an open home environment where pupils can engage, discuss and continue to learn about matters that have been raised through RSE

The right to withdraw

Parents/carers cannot withdraw their child from the statutory sex education content included in National Curriculum for Science which includes content on human development, including reproduction. Parents/carers also cannot withdraw their child from Relationships Education or Health Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships, how to stay safe and puberty. However, they do have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of the non-statutory RSE which is delivered as part of the PSHE curriculum.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing to the headteacher. The head teacher will discuss this request with parents/carers and, as appropriate, with the child to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum. This process will be documented to ensure a record is kept.

The head teacher will also discuss with parents/carers the benefits of receiving this important education and any detrimental effects that withdrawal might have on the child.

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

This will include any social and emotional effects of being excluded, as well as the likelihood of the child hearing their peers' version of what was said in the classes, rather than what was directly said by the teacher.

Statutory aspects of Sex Education within the National Curriculum Science

All schools must teach the following as part of the National Curriculum Science; parents/carers do not have the right to withdraw their child/children from this.

National Curriculum Science:

Key Stage 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
- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- describe the importance for humans of hygiene

Statutory aspects of Relationships Education:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring Friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

We will also teach Pants are Private and Safe Adults.

Statutory aspects of Health Education (which will be taught through RSE)

- Health prevention - personal hygiene and germs and the importance of handwashing.

Working with visitors and other external agencies

Where appropriate, we may use visitors from external agencies or members of the community to support RSE. Working with external organisations enhances delivery of RSE, bringing in specialist knowledge, which gives different ways of engaging with our pupils. When using visitors, the school's policy on use of visitors will be used. A teacher will be

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

present throughout these lessons. Visitors will be expected to comply with the guidelines outlined within it.

Inclusion, equality and diversity

We are required by law to comply with relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010. All pupils are entitled to quality RSE that helps them build confidence and a positive sense of self, and to stay healthy. We include all pupils regardless of their age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, or sexual orientation.

To encourage pupils to participate in lessons, teachers will ensure content, approach and use of inclusive language reflects the diversity of the school community and helps every pupil to feel valued and included in the classroom. The school's approaches to teaching and learning take into account all the needs of the pupils to ensure all can access the full RSE provision. Our policy values the different backgrounds of all pupils in school and, in acknowledging and exploring different views and beliefs, seeks to promote respect and understanding. We encourage respect for all religions and cultures. We have a clear duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that our teaching is accessible to all pupils, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or + (LGBT+). The school will take into account the language skills of individual pupils, ensuring that all pupils have equal access to the RSE provision and resources.

Assessment, recording and reporting in RSE

Sex and Relationships Education is assessed through regular PSHE assessments. Children will take part in pre and post assessments when it is called for. Staff will keep in touch with parents/carers and will pass on any relevant information related to PSHE issues taught throughout the year.

Monitoring and evaluation

There is a planned cycle of monitoring at our School. RSE forms part of this monitoring cycle as an element of our PSHE work and all audit and review procedures and findings are scrutinised by the school Leadership Team and Governors.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Through Relationships Education (and RSE), pupils will begin understand that they have rights over their own bodies. This will also include understanding boundaries in friendships with peers and also in families and with others, in all contexts, including online.

Yeadon Westfield Infant School
Relationships and Sex Education Policy
2020-Review 2023

Pupils will be taught how to report concerns and seek advice when they suspect or know that something is wrong.

Children will be taught to:

- say no
- respect their own body
- speak out and know that someone can help

Our use of the anatomical terms for body parts helps to ensure that children are able to describe abusive behaviours if they need to.

All our staff will establish and maintain a safe learning environment; this is important for good learning to take place, and also contributes to effective safeguarding.

Confidentiality in the context of RSE lessons

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any visitors who are invited into school to support and enhance the curriculum will follow the planned programme for RSE and copies of the RSE policy will be available prior to their visit.

Although an atmosphere of trust is encouraged, teachers will not offer pupils or parents/carers unconditional confidentiality. Information about behaviour likely to cause harm to the pupil or to others will be passed onto the appropriate agency via our Child Protection Officers.