

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

1. Aims

The aims of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at Charles Dickens Primary School are to:

- Build on what is taught at home and provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of how and why the body develops and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around all types of relationships
- Safeguard pupils by educating them about their own bodies and about behaviour within relationships

2. Statutory requirements

In September 2020, Relationships Education became a compulsory subject in Primary schools as per sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and must be taught to all pupils. We are expected to offer all pupils a curriculum that is similar to the National Curriculum including statutory requirements to teach the elements of Sex Education that fall under the Science curriculum. We are expected to teach Health Education.

At Charles Dickens Primary School we teach RSE and Health Education in accordance with the statutory guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education and as set out in this policy.

3. Curriculum Definition

The compulsory Relationships Education and Health Education curriculum includes an understanding of different relationships within families and friendships both online and offline, key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body covering both physical and emotional changes.

Sex Education is not compulsory in primary schools, although the statutory Science curriculum includes identifying the main external body parts, the human body as it grows from birth to old age (including puberty) and reproduction in some plants and animals. The statutory guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education also highlights the importance of the transition to secondary school and, “continues to recommend therefore that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for Science – how a baby is conceived and born.

3.1 At Charles Dickens Primary School, we provide sex education in order to

- Are accurately informed, in an age appropriate way, and do not seek answers elsewhere
- Safeguard pupils by education them about their bodies and appropriate behaviour
- Prepare children for the changes of adolescence
- Support the social and cultural development of pupils by providing an understanding of the world around them
- Support our children to be respectful and responsible members of the community

4. Curriculum

RSE is taught within the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education curriculum. The specifics of this curriculum and its delivery may be adapted as and when necessary, provided that changes do not negate the information provided in this policy.

RSE is taught as a whole school during Spring Term using the Christopher Winter Project which is a program of carefully sequenced, age appropriate lessons and resources.

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

Parents and carers will be formally informed of when we will be teaching the RSE unit each year, at least two weeks before, and will be offered the opportunity to view the relevant teaching materials/resources.

5. Parents' and Carers' right to withdraw

Parents/carers do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education or Health Education. This includes the emotional and physical changes during puberty, including menstruation. Your right to withdraw is explained in the [Government's Guide for Parents](#).

Parents/carers do have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE. This includes how a baby is conceived and born (covered in Year 6).

If a parent/carer wishes to withdraw their child from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE, requests for withdrawal should be put in writing to the Headteacher.

Requests should be made in good time, following review of this policy.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

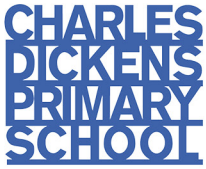
6. Training

Staff will be trained on the delivery of RSE during their first year and it is included in the school's continuing professional development calendar.

7. Review and monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE under PSHE will be monitored by the PSHE Lead and Headteacher through staff training and lesson observations. Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of the school's internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed every year and at any point when the statutory guidance is changed.




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