



## Blakeley Heath Primary School RSE Policy 2021



### Relationships Education

This policy covers our approach to Relationships Education; a statutory component of the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum from September 2021. It aims to set out the purpose of Relationships Education and the intended outcomes for pupils, what is covered in our curriculum and how it is delivered.

We define Relationships Education as learning about the many strands of relationships and growing up. This includes family relationships, friendships and relationships with peers and adults, healthy and unhealthy relationships, the characteristics of positive relationships, relationships online and the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up.

This policy was produced by Kieleigh Williams and Helena Browne in consultation with Laura Richards on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

To be reviewed on 6.5.21.

### Purposes and Principles

At our school, we believe in providing every pupil with open, honest, accurate and age-appropriate lessons all about relationships. Through the school's ethos and values, we aim to develop children's knowledge, skills, opinions, strategies and confidence - enabling them to cope with life and live safely and happily in the modern world.

We highly value the partnership between school and home and will promote open and informative two-way communication. We aim to provide parents and carers with accurate information about what their child is learning in school and to provide the best learning environment and opportunities for our children.

Our Relationships Education curriculum is inclusive and meets the needs of all children, including those with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). We also aim to promote gender equality and represent the LGBTQ+ community through our Relationships curriculum.

Through our comprehensive Relationships Education provision, we aim to provide all pupils with:

- the knowledge and understanding of a variety of relationships;
- the ability to identify any concerns they have about a relationship and how to report these;
- coping strategies and an awareness of how and where to seek support;
- an understanding of their rights and responsibilities within a range of relationships;
- an awareness of the process of growing up and the changes they and others will experience;
- an understanding of the characteristics of positive relationships;

### Statutory Regulations

From September 2021, all primary schools must deliver Relationships Education. Under the Education Act 2002/Academies Act 2010, all schools must provide a balanced and broadly-based curriculum which:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
- prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

Documents that inform the school's Relationships Education Policy include:

- Education Act (1996)
- Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010),
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21st century (2014)
- Keeping children safe in education – Statutory safeguarding guidance (2016)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Guidance (2019)

### Roles and Responsibilities

The Relationships Education programme of study in our school will be led by class teachers whilst been overseen by Kieleigh Williams.

The school governor representatives responsible for the Relationships Education programme is Emma Whitehouse and Sue Harkness (Curriculum) as well as Kerry Harkness and Lisa Beasley (Well-being).

All staff members involved in teaching and supporting the Relationships Education curriculum will be and supported by SLT as well as the PSHE co-ordinator.

### Our Relationships Education Curriculum

Our inclusive Relationships curriculum supports the objectives set out by the PSHE Association which meet the statutory requirements for Key Stage 1 and 2. It forms a core part of our comprehensive Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

Our Relationships Scheme of Work can be viewed on our website: <https://www.blakeleyheath.staffs.sch.uk/>

We aim for our curriculum to build on and link to learning in other subjects as well as be an integral part of day-to-day practise.

Our lessons will be differentiated where appropriate, ensuring all children are able to participate fully. Children will be given the opportunity throughout the units of work to reflect on and evaluate their learning - assessment opportunities are built in to every lesson.

### Delivering the Curriculum

We aim to create and maintain a safe environment within which all children feel able to ask questions and discuss issues openly. Ground rules will be established in class and children reminded of these. Special consideration will be given when teaching particularly sensitive content and staff will be fully aware of the children in their class and how they might relate to the lesson content.

For any child wishing to discuss something confidential, relating to the lesson content, an opportunity will be provided.

Each class also has a question box, which gives children the option to write down their questions and receive an answer on a one-to-one basis, rather than in front of the whole class. Distancing techniques will be employed in our Relationships Education, as with other areas of the PSHE curriculum, meaning that children are able to discuss fictional characters and scenarios, rather than discuss their own lives and experiences.

PSHE is taught across school once a week.

### Right to withdraw

Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from Health Education. Health Education includes the teaching of correct terminology for body parts and learning about the changing adolescent body in a timely way to ensure that they are prepared for changes they will experience before they happen.

Parents and carers will be able to request that their child is excused from those parts of lessons that are defined as sex education.

Parents and carers should note that the science curriculum includes discussion about human reproduction. Parents cannot excuse their child from any part of the science curriculum, including lessons about reproduction and human development.

### Assessment, Monitoring and Reporting

Self-assessment is an important part of learning in Relationships Education and PSHE. Children will reflect on their learning throughout the units. We highly value pupil voice and will take into account the opinions and comments of our children about what they would like to learn.

Assessment will be carried out throughout the key stages in a variety of ways including:

- Observation
- Marking of written work
- Looking at the progression between each year group
- Subject Leader monitoring
- Feedback to parents regarding their child's progress in their annual written report

PSHE/RSE lessons shall be monitored in line with school policy and included in book scrutinise as well as lesson observations led by a member of SLT.

### Safeguarding

Teachers are aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. In this instance, teachers will consult with the designated safeguarding lead and in his/her absence, their deputy.

Our Safeguarding lead is: Laura Richards

Our Safeguarding deputy is: Sam Hood and Rachel Cotterill

Visitors and external agencies which support the delivery of Relationships Education will be required to adhere to the school's safeguarding policy and policies relating to the subjects they are teaching or contributing towards.

### Engaging Stakeholders

This policy will be available to view via our website by all stakeholders. Parents will be informed of this policy June 2020, before the scheme of work is launched in September 2021. We are committed to working closely with parents and carers and we do this by:

- Conducting parent/carers surveys
- Allowing parents time to review schemes of work, policies and resources
- Various workshops
- Communicating when Relationship lessons will be taking place
- Links to useful websites
- Home learning opportunities to follow up lessons

Parents and carers have the legal right to withdraw their child from all or part of sex education taught as part of statutory Relationships Education, with the exception of the objectives included in National Curriculum science.

Those considering this option are asked to speak with a member of SLT in order to find out more about this.

#### Links to Other Policies

Our Relationships Education Policy links to the following other school policies:

PSHE

#### Reviewing the Policy

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the PSHE coordinator in conversation with Helena Browne. This will ensure that information is accurate and up-to-date and that the views of all stakeholders are heard and considered regularly.

This policy will be approved by Laura Richards and Blakeley Heath Governors.