



Parent information

Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RSE)

16th March 2021



We aim to inform you of:

- the school's legal obligations on Relationships, Health and Sex Education (from September 2020)
- your rights as a parent/carer
- how, what, why and when we intend to teach children (*our consultation will give you the opportunity to look at planning and resources*)



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)



Our responsibilities

As a school we are responsible for considering:

- parents' views
- needs of our pupils and the community
- statutory requirements from the Department for Education (DfE)



New guidance

- 20 years since the last review of the curriculum - the world (and how we interact with each other) has changed
- Relationships and Health Education in Primary Schools aims
- Sex Education in Primary Schools remains optional.

Science Curriculum



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

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. They should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs.

Year 5 and Year 6

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

Where and how did you learn about sex and relationships? For young people, their learning comes from...

Mobile phones



TV



Internet



School



Parents and Carers



Friends and older siblings





Why is Relationships and Sex Education important?

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

What is effective Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RSE)?



- Age appropriate
- Based on needs of pupils
- 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



National research – what did children say?

What children feel they need to know about now:

Year 2:

- Mainly about rules and keeping safe

Year 4:

- Body changes- growing bigger, voice changes, marriage and dating (though dating wouldn't start until high school)

Year 6:

- Hormones, body changes, relationships with family and friends, gender and sexuality; gender stereotypes

What did children say they needed to know later?



Year 2:

- Internet safety
- Stranger danger
- Knives

Year 4:

- Bullying
- Internet safety
- Having babies
- Periods and hair growing under armpits

Year 6:

- How not to have a baby



Where did children think a baby came from?

Year 2	Year 4	Year 6
It has come from Scotland It was found on a doorstep A shop A seed from daddy A seed from a plant God Staying in bed Telepathy	You eat a seed God A man and a girl do a thingamajig I'm not saying! Sperm like a tadpole Confusion about how a woman could be pregnant without a man	Lots of giggling Sperm, Testicles Womb Egg



How does the baby get out?

Year 2	Year 4	Year 6
Push it out Belly button Out of your private bits The pelvis Hospital	Their bottom Their tummy Go to hospital and sit in a chair and push It comes out of their tummy They have to cut the belly open	You know you are in labour because water comes out Vagina If something is wrong cut open her belly



Other observations

- Giggles/embarrassment (Year 6)
- Struggle to name body parts
- Some talked to parents/carers
- Use of gay seen as an insult
- Gender stereotypes
- Wanted more RSE than they had had (Year 6)
- Wanted Teachers to deliver the learning (Year 6)



Changes for schools

- Introduce children to the correct scientific terms to describe body parts in Key Stage 1
- Challenge the use of 'gay' as an insult and include work around the makeup of different families
- Explore/challenge gender roles/stereotypes
- Deliver RSE in a progressive way across the school
- Ensure that children in Year 5 and 6 receive RSE input around puberty so that they are prepared as soon as possible for the onset of puberty
- For some sessions on Sex Education consider single gender sessions



Summary

- Parents have the right to withdraw children from Sex Education lessons at Primary School that go **beyond** the content in the Science National Curriculum.
- Topics covered, related and linked to the Science Curriculum are statutory and not optional to teach. This is as follows:
 - In Key Stage 1, children learn that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults. They should be introduced to the concepts of reproduction and growth but not how reproduction occurs.
 - In Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5/6), children are taught about the life cycles of humans and animals, including reproduction. They also learn about the change that happens in humans from birth to old age. This includes learning about what happens in puberty.
- Schools have the right and obligation to teach RSE topics to prepare children for life when they leave school.
- The curriculum on Relationships, Health and Sex Education should complement, and be supported by, the school's wider policies on Behaviour, bullying and safeguarding (PSHE; E-Safety, etc).



What is statutory?

Relationships and Health Education are statutory.

Relationships Education

Health Education

Please see 'Yearly overviews' on RSE page of the school website for more information.



What is non-statutory?

Sex Education is non-statutory.

We define **Sex Education** as understanding human reproduction of conception, pregnancy and birth.

We intend to teach this in Years 5 and 6.

Parents can withdraw their child from Sex Education lessons (that are outside of/additional to the Science National Curriculum).

The **science curriculum** in all maintained schools includes content on human development, including reproduction, **which there is no right to withdraw from.**

Jigsaw



Waddesdon Village Primary School uses Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, as its teaching programme for PSHE.

This includes all the statutory requirements for Relationships and Health Education.

It also includes the non-statutory aspect of Sex Education.



Content and resources – Years 5 and 6

Mrs Leslie and Mrs Swanson.





Useful information

Our school's policies: **Relationships and Health Policy** and **Sex Education Policy**

Yearly overviews

The DfE has published some resources to explain the new RSE requirements to parents. These also explain parents' rights with regards to the RSE curriculum.

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education-faqs>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-health-education-guides-for-schools>