



'Believe, Excite, Succeed, Together'

*Service and Stewardship. Justice. Peace and Forgiveness
Generosity. Thankfulness. Equality
Love and Compassion*

Welbourn Church of England Primary School

Relationships Education, relationships and Sex Education Policy (RSE) and Health Education (RSHE)

PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY:	<i>TRACY BOULTER</i>
ALLOCATED GOVERNOR:	<i>BECKY BULL</i>
THIS SUBJECT WILL BE MONITORED BY:	<i>TRACY BOULTER</i>
APPROVED:	SEPTEMBER 2021
SIGNED:	
TO BE REVIEWED:	SEPTEMBER 2024

Introduction

Our school's approach to Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) follows that of the Church of England Education Office in that it seeks to be faith-sensitive and inclusive. It is underpinned by two key Biblical passages:

*“So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them”
(Genesis 2:7)*

*“I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness”
(John 10:10)*

At Welbourn Church of England Primary School, everyone is treated with dignity as all people who are made in the image of God and are loved equally by God.

All pupils have a right to an education which enables them to flourish and is set in a learning community where differences of lifestyle and opinion (within that which is permissible under UK law) are treated with dignity and respect; where bullying of all kinds is eliminated; and where they are free to be themselves and fulfil their potential without fear.

Welbourn CE Primary School, seeks to ensure that the RSHE curriculum protects, informs and nurtures all pupils. It clearly differentiates between factual teaching (biology, medicine, the law, marriage, different types of families and the composition of society) and moral teaching about relationships and values, recognising that the distinction can be easily blurred and that there needs to be discernment about the manner in which this is taught. We teach RSHE within a moral (but not moralistic) framework.

RSHE at Welbourn Church of England Primary School is about what constitutes wellbeing and loving care for ourselves (physical and mental health education), how we show loving care for others (relationships education) and, when at an appropriate age and stage in life, how we show loving care to those we choose to be intimate with, including within marriage (sex education). It is also about the spiritual and moral aspects of healthy, loving and nurturing relationships within a context of a Christian vision for the purpose of life. Pupils will consider how to ensure that they treat themselves and others, at all times and in all contexts, with dignity and respect.

This policy sets out our school's approach to statutory Relationships Education and non-statutory Sex Education. It was produced by the PSHE and RSE coordinator, alongside staff through consultation with parents and Governors. We have based our school's relationships

and sex education policy on the statutory guidance document “[Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) and Health Education](#)” (DfE, 2019) and the PSHE Association’s supplementary guidance “Writing your school’s relationships and sex education (RSE) policy” (PSHE Association, September 2018).

Department for Education guidance states that from September 2020, all primary schools must teach Relationships and Health Education. The teaching of Sex Education in primary schools remains non-statutory, with the exception of the elements of sex education contained in the science national curriculum including the main external body parts, the human life cycle (including puberty) and reproduction in some plants and animals. Other related topics that fall within the statutory requirements for Health Education, such as puberty and menstrual wellbeing, will be included within PSHE education lessons. Within the statutory guidance document for RSE and Health Education, the DfE also encourages schools to deliver age-appropriate sex education if they feel their pupils need this information.

Defining Relationships Education

Relationships Education is learning about how to:

- be appreciative of existing relationships;
- form new healthy friendships; and
- enjoy strong positive, caring, relationships with good boundaries, online and in person.

This will particularly refer to family relationships (including marriage), friendships and relationships with peers and adults.

Our pupils say that Relationship Education and Health Education is important for the following reasons:

- To keep safe
- To learn how to behave with others and how to deal with conflict
- To help develop positive relationships with family and friends and how to treat others
- To help read, understand and deal with feelings
- To help us make healthy choices and know how to care for our bodies
- To help us understand mental and physical health
- To improve our well-being

Defining Sex Education

Sex education is about reproduction: learning how babies can be made and the emotions that people experience when they are ready for close intimacy.

The national curriculum for science includes content about human body parts, growth, puberty and gestation. Parents do not have the right to withdraw from this aspect of the curriculum.

Non-statutory Sex Education

The DfE guidance 2019 recommends that all primary schools have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of pupils, and this should include how a baby is conceived and born. Although sex education is not compulsory in primary schools, we believe children should understand the facts about human reproduction before they leave primary school. We therefore provide some non-statutory sex education, covering how human reproduction and conception occurs. This is included in the 'Growing and changing' unit we deliver for our pupils in their PSHE/HE and RSE lessons. We believe that teaching this additional content to pupils will ensure that they are better prepared for transition to secondary school and also support their personal and social development as they grow into young adults.

At Welbourn Church of England School, we seek to provide Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (RSHE), which will enable all pupils to flourish.

We commit:

1. To work in partnership with parents and carers. This will involve dialogue with parents and carers through all stages of policy development as well as discussing the resources used to teach their children and how they can contribute at home. It must, however, be recognised that the law specifies that what is taught and how it is taught is ultimately a decision for the school.

2. That RSHE will be delivered professionally and as an identifiable part of PSHE. It will be led, resourced and reported to parents in the same way as any other subject. There will be a planned programme delivered in a carefully sequenced way. Staff will receive regular training in RSHE and PSHE. Any expert visitors or trainers invited into the school to enhance and supplement the programme will be expected to respect the school's published policy for RSHE.

3. That RSHE will be delivered in an inclusive way that gives dignity, respect to all that make up our wonderfully diverse society, including the LGBT+ community. It will be taught in a way that is sensitive to the faith and beliefs of those in the wider school community and will seek to fairly explain the tenets and varying interpretations of religious communities on matters of sex and relationships. It will value the importance of faithfulness as the underpinning and backdrop for relationships. It will encourage pupils to develop the skills needed to disagree without being disagreeable, to appreciate the lived experience of other people and to live well together.

4. That RSHE will seek to build resilience in our pupils to help them form healthy relationships and resist the harmful influence of pornography in all its forms. It will give pupils opportunities to reflect on values and influences including their peers, the media, the internet, faith and culture that may have shaped their attitudes to gender, relationships and sex. It will promote the development of the wisdom and skills our pupils need to make their own informed decisions.

5. That RSHE will promote healthy resilient relationships set in the context of character and virtue development. It will reflect the vision and associated values of the school and develop character and virtues such as equality, love, compassion, forgiveness, generosity and a sense of justice. It will encourage relationships that are hopeful and aspirational.

6. That RSHE will be based on honest and medically accurate information based on reliable sources of information, including about the law and legal rights. It will present a positive view of human sexuality. It will distinguish between different types of knowledge and opinions so that pupils can learn about their bodies and sexual and reproductive health as appropriate to their age and maturity.

7. To take a particular care to meet the individual needs of all pupils including those with special needs and disabilities. It will ensure that lessons and any resources used will be accessible and sensitive to the learning needs of the individual child. We acknowledge the potential vulnerability of pupils who have SEND but recognise the possibilities and rights of SEND pupils to high quality relationships and sex education.

8. To seek pupils' views about RSHE so that the teaching can be made relevant to their lives. It will discuss real life issues relating to the age and stage of pupils, including friendships, families, consent, relationship abuse, exploitation and safe relationships online. This will be carefully targeted and age appropriate based on a teacher judgment about pupil readiness for this information in consultation with parents and carers.

Implementation of the Relationships, Sex, Health Education Curriculum

All staff will be responsible for teaching the programme, drawing upon PSHE Association resources, 1decision resources and National Online safety learning. It will be timetabled alongside the appropriate National Curriculum orders for Science in order to make the learning connections. It may be pertinent to teach the programme if a specific concern arises within the group.

All children will be taught in mixed gender groups with at least 2 adults present.

In particular, in Sex Education:

- 5-7 year olds will explore the differences between the sexes, growth and change from the foetus to an adult and the correct terminology for the main external parts of their body.
- 7-9 year olds will explore the changes that take place in puberty, the process of reproduction within a caring relationship, roles and responsibilities and the development and needs of an unborn baby.
- 9-11 year olds will explore difficult questions young people have during this period of change, including masturbation and wet dreams and the mixed messages received about sex.

This teaching will be primarily supported by the 1decision video programmes and resources. The teaching strategies of discussion and reflection will be a major influence on the work. Ground rules will be established together with each teaching group before discussion begins. They must include points about respect, trust, confidentiality, diversity, support and awareness of others. (guidance can be found on the 1decision website)

A box must be available before and after the discussion sessions for all children to pose their own questions. Children must realise that some questions may not be answered if the content is inappropriate for the age of the group. If a child requires a confidential answer, they must put their name on the question paper.

Continuous professional development will be considered within the individual teacher's Performance Management process and to take account of national initiatives.

Specific Issues Statement

The delicate nature of the subject means that its teaching will be carried out with extra care and sensitivity, bearing in mind some children may have unhappy experiences of family life. Personal or explicit questions will be dealt with individually and if appropriate with a support agency. All children need to be made aware that adults cannot offer unconditional confidentiality. If a personal disclosure is made, the child must be reassured that he or she will be informed first if confidentiality is broken and support will be found. Child protection issues must be reported to the Head/Deputy Designated safeguarding lead and up to date procedures will be followed.

Statutory Requirement

All parents will be notified when the teaching and learning is to take place and will have the opportunity to view the teaching resources prior to the children's sessions. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from part of the programme – this is the conception aspect. National Curriculum Science requirements and those related to puberty must be taught to all children. It is recommended that parents wishing to withdraw their child from the programme discuss the content with the Head teacher first. Alternative arrangements in school will be made for the pupil during these sessions. The curriculum information for parents withdrawing their child will be sent for home use.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils are entitled to quality RSHE to meet their individual needs and we will endeavour to deliver this either within the main classroom or through small group teaching sessions. Teachers will bear in mind the needs of all children but especially those with specific learning needs. Resources will be checked by all teachers for any racial, disability, age, sexual orientation and gender issues and will be removed from the curriculum. Resources will be carefully chosen for the age and ability of the children.

Links with other Policies

Welbourn Church of England Primary School

- Behaviour / Discipline
- Anti-bullying
- Esafety
- Drug Education and Dealing with Drug Related Incidents

This policy was created by the PSHE/RSE/HE leader in conjunction with parents, staff and children.

This policy will be reviewed annually by staff and governors.

Useful Organisations

Black Health Agency

0161 226 9145

www.blackhealthagency.co.org.uk Provides a range of health-related services and initiatives for the diverse Black communities locally, regionally and nationally.

Brook

020 7248 6040

www.brook.org.uk Publishes a range of resources for young people and professionals

Centre for HIV and Sexual Health

0114 226 1900

www.sheffhiv.demon.co.uk Offers training, consultancy and resources for children, young people and professionals.

Sex Education Forum

020 7843 6056

www.ncb.org.uk/sexed.htm Offers a range of publications and factsheets including *Sex Education Matters*, a termly newsletter currently free of charge to all schools.

Working with Men

020 8308 0709

Training and resources for working with boys and young men.

Education for Choice

020 7837 7221

www.efc.org.uk Provides materials and training for teachers and professionals working with young people on abortion and choice.

RPA

020 7837 5432

www.rpa.org.uk Offers training and consultancy as well as resources for children, young people and professionals.

Health Development Agency

020 7430 0850

www.hda-online.org.uk Offers research, support and resources. The National Healthy School Standard national team is based at the Health Development Agency.

Image in Action

01494 481 623

Image in Action works with young people with learning disabilities using drama, group work and active learning to teach sex education. Has produced two resources.

National Children's Bureau

020 7843 6000

www.ncb.org.uk Offers an information service and produces a range of resources, and offers training and consultancy on all aspects of PSHE and Citizenship.

Websites that can support curriculum planning

- Goodness and Mercy www.goodnessandmercy.co.uk
- Wired for Health www.wiredforhealth.co.uk
- National Grid for Learning www.ngfl.gov.uk
- DfES PSHE and Citizenship websites www.teachernet.gov.uk/pshe
www.dfes.gov.uk/citizenship/
- Sex Education Forum website www.ncb.org.uk/sef