



# **RSE Frequently asked Questions**

# What is new?

**During the academic year 2020-2021, all primary children will be taught about relationships and health. This is the law and it applies to all schools.**

**The statutory content will form part of Personal, Social and Health Education, alongside the other elements of P.S.H.E.**

# **What will stay the same?**

**We have always taught children about dealing with the world around them as part of **P.S.H.E.** and we will continue to do so**

**The lessons will still be called **P.S.H.E.** on the timetable and will include many topics and skills that we have always taught.**

# **Why has the government made this change?**

**They believe relationships education will :**

- prevent bullying based on perceived differences**
- help children to be happy, healthy and safe**
- prepare them for life in a diverse modern society**

**Making the subject compulsory demonstrates their commitment to those aims.**

**Will relationships education be  
suitable for my child?**

**Teaching will be age appropriate and  
respectful of faith and diversity.**

# **Will relationships education be compatible with my religion?**

**Schools must take into account the religious background of all pupils and handle sensitive topics appropriately.**

**The Equality Act (2010), states that religion or belief are protected characteristics, along with: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; sex; sexual orientation.**

**Schools must deliver the statutory curriculum to all pupils.**

**Do the regulations apply  
to faith schools?**

**Yes, although they can also teach their  
faith's perspective on relationships.**

**In all schools, teaching should reflect  
the law as it applies to relationships, so  
that young people understand what the  
law allows and does not allow.**

# **What about children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities?**

**Relationships education, like other aspects of the curriculum, should be differentiated and personalised for pupils with S.E.N.D.**

**Schools have a duty to prepare children for adulthood from early childhood, as set out in the S.E.N.D. code of practice.**



**As a parent, how much say do I have  
about these lessons?**

**We are asking for your views about when  
and how topics will be covered and also  
on our planned teaching resources  
(copies of these can be made available).**

# **Will my child have to learn about LGBT?**

**We will teach children to be respectful and fair to people from all types of families, including those with a mum and dad, single parent families, adoptive and foster families, and those with same sex parents. This will be an integral part of the curriculum.**

**The DfE has included this in order to promote respect for diversity, and to prevent bullying of all children**

# **What else will my child have to learn about?**

- **Healthy relationships with family and friends**
- **Getting along with others in society**
- **Bullying**
- **Keeping themselves safe in person and online**
- **How to get help if they feel unsafe**

# Teaching about puberty

**In Key Stage 2, children have to learn about the emotional and physical changes that happen during puberty**

**We will teach this in years 4/5/6 and it will be delivered to single sex groups by the class teacher or the school nurse.**

# **Why do we teach about puberty in primary school?**

**It is in children's best interest to understand what is happening to them as they grow and it is part of the statutory health education curriculum**

**The average age for girls to start puberty is 11, but it can be any time between 8 and 14**

**Most boys start puberty between 9 and 14; the average age is 12**

# **Next steps**

**Curriculum planning will take place after this information has been shared, taking your feedback into account.**

**More information will be given, early in the summer term, to review the outcomes from any questions received.**