

# Relationships and Sex Education Policy



## What is it? Why is it important?

Effective Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is essential if young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their life and enable them to flourish and fulfil our school vision to 'Together, Fly High Like an Eagle'. According to the United Nations Charter on the Rights of the Child, all children have the following rights that must be protected:

Article 24 (Health and health services): Children have the right to good quality health care – the best health care possible – to safe drinking water, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, **and information to help them stay healthy.**

Article 29 (Goals of education): Children's education should develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the fullest. It should encourage children to respect others, human rights and their own and other cultures. It should also help them learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people. Children have a particular responsibility to respect the rights of their parents, and education should aim to develop respect for the values and culture of their parents.

RSE should not be taught in isolation but clearly placed within the framework for Personal, Social and Health Education (P.S.H.E.) and within the Science curriculum. It is education about physical, moral and emotional development. The children should be helped towards an acceptance and an understanding of their bodies, as they grow towards puberty and adulthood. As right respecting children in a Church of England school, an understanding of relationships, and the feelings and needs of others, is essential as ignorance can lead to inappropriate behaviour and prejudice. The policy will also be sensitive towards the cultural and religious values of the pupils and families in our school.

This policy has been written in accordance with the most up to date legislation relating to relationships and sex education (RSE). This information is contained within the Education Act 1996 and The Learning and Skills Act 2000. Section 34 of The Children and Social Work Act 2017 provides for relationships and sex education to be taught in all schools in England, which became statutory in all schools from September 2020

## What do we aim to achieve for the children?

1. To provide education about the changes which take place as we grow and to cherish our bodies.
2. To nurture a responsible attitude towards personal relationships including aspects of mutual respect, care and developing sensitivity towards the needs of others.
3. To provide an environment which encourages openness, questioning and the opportunity to ask questions anonymously.
4. To enable children to make informed choices and to recognise outside pressure on all decisions, in order to resist peer pressure.

## How do we do it?

All classes follow the 'Jigsaw' programme which covers many aspects of relationship education. Science lessons will also cover elements of reproduction as a biological process, however, due to the cross-curricular nature of the subject, it will also be discussed and taught as and when it arises through normal topic work. In addition, all classes will follow the '*Teaching RSE with Confidence in Primary Schools*' scheme. These lessons will be taught discretely in the summer term; Pupils will be asked to use the correct terminology when asking questions and completing tasks set.

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RSE Policy Version: 3.0

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Content Overview		
EYFS	Our lives	Lesson 1: Our day. Lesson 2: Keeping ourselves clean. Lesson 3: Families.
Year 1	Growing and caring for ourselves	Lesson 1: Keeping clean. Lesson 2: Growing and changing. Lesson 3: Families and care.
Year 2	Differences	Lesson 1: Differences: Boys and girls. Lesson 2: Differences: Male and female. Lesson 3: Naming the body parts.
Year 3	Valuing difference and keeping safe	Lesson 1: Male and female. Lesson 2: Personal space. Lesson 3: Family differences.
Year 4	Growing up	Lesson 1: Growing and changing. Lesson 2: What is puberty? Lesson 3: Puberty changes and reproduction.
Year 5	Puberty	Lesson 1: Talking about puberty. Lesson 2: Male and female changes. Lesson 3: Puberty and Hygiene
Year 6	Puberty, relationships and reproduction	Lesson 1: Puberty and reproduction. Lesson 2: Understanding relationships. Lesson 3: Conception and pregnancy Lesson 4: Communication in relationships

## Key points

- Parents in all year groups will be invited to view all materials used in the teaching of RSE and discuss any issues with the class teacher.
- At times it may be deemed appropriate to teach boys and girls separately, for example to enable them to ask questions which may be embarrassing in a mixed group environment, but whenever possible pupils will be taught as a whole class in their appropriate year group.
- Children will know that they are free to question further and discuss issues with their own teacher or other member of staff.
- Any pupil disclosures of abuse will be handled sensitively following the Safeguarding Policy.

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## Child Excuse Procedures

RSE at St John's is to be taught across the curriculum and it will not be possible to separate out all the Sex Education lessons. There will be however specific lessons taught in a discrete week in the summer term. Notification will be sent to parents in writing in advance, inviting them to view any resources being used. If a parent feels it is necessary to excuse a child from the lessons they will need to come to school and discuss their concerns with the class teacher.

As a school we will respect the parents' decision as long as the particular objective or lesson does not fall into the statutory relationships, health or science curriculum. In the event of a child being excused from a lesson that child will stay in school and be assigned to another class until the lesson is over.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy

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