



Relationships and Sex Education Policy 2023-2024

Aims

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Develop children's understanding of the protected characteristics
- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Ensure children understand what sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable

Statutory requirements

As a maintained primary school we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

Although we are not required to provide sex education with PSHE, we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RSE, we must have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

At Innsworth Schools' Partnership we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

Definition

RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

RSE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

Curriculum and Implementation

We follow the Jigsaw PSHE curriculum and scheme for RSE [3 - 11 Primary PSHE Scheme of Work | England | Jigsaw PSHE](#) in line the DfE guidance [Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

We also utilise other resources, including those from Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning, Facts for Life and Dove.

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

Primary sex education will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster

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parents/carers amongst other structures) along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

Within RSHE children will cover and understand what constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable.

Parents' right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the Jigsaw curriculum lessons on having a baby, conception and birth components of sex education within RSE.

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from sex education covered in the Science curriculum

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing addressed to the headteacher.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

This policy is written in consultation with parents, staff and governors.

Further information for parents on the Jigsaw RSE policy can be found here: [Information for Parents and Carers | Resources | Jigsaw PSHE](#)