

Greenside Primary School

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Introduction

From September 2020, Relationships Education is compulsory for all primary schools as set out in the DfE Guidance (2019). For all maintained schools there is also a statutory duty to provide Health Education. This includes primary aged children learning about the *'changing adolescent body'*, included in the expected outcomes for primary Health Education. (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education, DfE, 2019). This policy has been written in response to this requirement. Relationships and sex education at Greenside Primary School should be complimentary to, and supportive of, the role of parents, in educating their children about sexuality and relationships.

What is Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)?

Effective relationships and sex education can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables children and young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being. This is why the DfE recommend:

"... that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born." (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education, DfE, 2019, para 67).

At Greenside, we use the Jigsaw programme for PSHE to support our teaching of RSE. This comprehensive programme provides accurate information about the body, reproduction, sex, and sexual health. It also gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline.

Aims

The aim of RSE is to provide balanced information about physical and emotional changes, together with consideration of the broader emotional, ethical, religious, and moral dimensions of sexual health.

Our RSE programme aims to prepare pupils for an adult life in which they can:

- develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour.
- have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others and respect for individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationship they want.
- understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within personal relationships.
- avoid being pressured into uncomfortable or dangerous situations.
- communicate effectively by developing the appropriate language for body parts and functions and sex and relationship issues.
- develop awareness of their sexuality, challenge sexism and prejudice, and promote equality and diversity.
- have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves in a variety of situations.

- be aware of sources of help and acquire the skills and confidence to access advice and support if necessary.

Organisation and Content of Relationships and Sex Education

We specifically deliver relationships and sex education through our PSHE ‘Jigsaw’ Programme and science lessons in EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Much of the relationships and sex education in school takes place within PSHE lessons. Teachers generally deliver these aspects of the PSHE curriculum with support from professionals where appropriate. School staff are usually the best people to work with the pupils on many of the RSE topics as they are aware of each pupil's individual circumstances. RSE lessons are set within the wider context of the PSHE curriculum and focus more on the emotional aspects of development and relationships, although the physical aspects of puberty and reproduction are also taught as part of National Curriculum science. The PSHE Programme and science National Curriculum are taught in every year.

Any RSE lesson may consider questions or issues that some pupils will find sensitive. Before embarking on these lessons ground rules are established which prohibit inappropriate personal information being requested or disclosed by those taking part in the lesson.

When pupils ask questions, we aim to answer them honestly at an age appropriate level and within the ground rule established at the start of the sessions. If it is felt that answering a specific question would involve information at a level inappropriate to the age and development of the rest of the pupils, the question will be dealt with individually at another time.

More expert or specialist teachers may support staff that are uncomfortable with teaching certain aspects of the RSE curriculum. Support and professional development will be provided for these staff, so that they can develop their confidence in delivering the whole of the RSE programme.

	Science	PSHE
EYFS	Understand animal life cycles	Family life; making friends; falling out and making up; being a good friend; dealing with bullying; growing up -how have I changed from baby to now; bodies (NOT including names of sexual parts); respecting my body and looking after it e.g. personal hygiene.
Year 1	Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body	Recognising bullying and how to deal with it; celebrating differences between people; making new friends; belonging to a family; being a good friend; physical contact preferences; people who help us; qualities as a friend and person; celebrating people who are special to me; life cycles – animal and human; changes in me; changes since being a baby; respecting my body and understand which parts are private.
Year 2	Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults (life cycles) *only looking at life cycles from growth perspective not reproduction Jigsaw piece 3 is a repeat of the Y1 private body parts lesson. Also	Assumptions and stereotypes about gender; understanding bullying; standing up for self and others; making new friends; gender diversity; celebrating difference and remaining friends; learning with others; group co-operation; different types of family; physical contact boundaries; friendship and conflict; secrets (including those that might worry us); trust and appreciation; expressing appreciation for special relationships; life cycles in nature; growing from

	ties in with NSPCC Pants rule	young to old; increasing independence; assertiveness; appreciate that some parts of my body are private.
Year 3	No relevant science unit for this year group	Seeing things from others' perspectives; Families and their differences; family conflict and how to manage it (child-centred); witnessing bullying and how to solve it; homophobic bullying; recognising how words can be hurtful; giving and receiving compliments; respect for myself and others; healthy and safe choices; family roles and responsibilities; friendship and negotiation; keeping safe online and who to go to for help; being aware of how my choices affect Others; awareness of how other children have different lives; expressing appreciation for family and friends; differences between female and male bodies (correct terminology: penis, testicles, vagina, vulva) family stereotypes.
Year 4	No relevant science unit for this year group	Challenging assumptions; judging by appearance; accepting self and others; understanding influences; understanding bullying including the role of the bystander; problem-solving in relationships; identifying how special and unique everyone is; first impressions; working in a group; celebrating contributions of others; healthier friendships; group dynamics; assertiveness; peer pressure; celebrating inner strength; jealousy; love and loss; memories of loved ones; getting on and falling out; girlfriends and boyfriends; showing appreciation to people and animals; being unique; inside and outside body changes at puberty; confidence in change; accepting change.
Year 5	Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals(humans) Describe the changes as humans develop to old age	Cultural differences and how they can cause conflict; racism; rumours and name-calling; types of bullying; enjoying and respecting other cultures; body image; self-recognition and self-worth; building self-esteem; safer online communities; rights and responsibilities online; online gaming and gambling; reducing screen time; dangers of online grooming; SMARRT internet safety rules; Self and body image; influence of online and media on body image; puberty for girls; puberty for boys; growing responsibility; coping with change. Y5 will also have a puberty talk from the school nurse to help consolidate learning from Y3/4 and support their learning in Y5.
Year 6	Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.	Children's universal rights; feeling welcome and valued; choices, consequences and rewards; group dynamics; democracy, having a voice; anti-social behaviour; role-modelling; perceptions of normality; understanding disability; understanding what transgender means; power struggles; understanding bullying; inclusion/exclusion; difference as conflict; difference as celebration; empathy; exploitation, including 'county-lines'

		and gang culture; love and loss; managing feelings; power and control; assertiveness; technology safety; responsibility with technology use; self-image, body image; puberty and feelings; reflections about change; physical attraction; respect and consent; boyfriends/girlfriends; sexting.
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Assessment is carried out at appropriate times and involves teacher, pupil and peer assessment of knowledge and understanding, skills, and attitudes.

Parents

The school is aware that the primary role in children's sex education lies with parents and carers. We therefore wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents and carers of children at our school, through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

To promote this objective, we:

- inform parents and carers about the school's sex education policy and practice;
- answer any questions that parents or carers may have about the sex education of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents or carers raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about the arrangements for sex education in the school;
- encourage parents and carers to be involved in reviewing the school policy, and making modifications to it as necessary;
- inform parents and carers about the best practice known with regard to sex education, so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home.

We believe that through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information, children will benefit from being given consistent messages about their changing bodies and their increasing responsibilities.

Withdrawal from RSE lessons

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from sex education provided at Greenside Primary School except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum science and that included within Statutory Relationships and Health Education. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the head teacher who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn, they cannot take part in the specific sex education lessons until the request for withdrawal has been removed. Materials are available to parents/carers who wish to supplement the school sex education programme or who wish to deliver sex education to their children at home. Parents and carers cannot withdraw from any aspect of Relationships Education and also Health Education lessons covering the changing adolescent body (puberty).

Inclusion

Ethnic, Cultural and Religious Groups

We intend our policy to be sensitive to the needs of different ethnic, cultural and religious groups. We encourage parents /carers to discuss any concerns with the Head teacher.

Pupils with Special Needs

We will ensure that all pupils receive relationships and sex education, and we will offer provision appropriate to the needs of all our pupils, taking specialist advice where necessary.

Sexual Identity and Sexual Orientation

We aim to deal sensitively and honestly with issues of sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. Pupils, whatever their developing sexuality need to feel that relationships and sex education is relevant to them.

Confidentiality and Child Protection / Safeguarding Issues

At the beginning of each session, the teacher will explain the rules of the session and explain to the children that they cannot guarantee confidentiality. As a general rule a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned; however, if this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he talks to the named child protection co-ordinator who takes action as laid down in the Child Protection Policy. All staff members are familiar with the policy and know the identity of the member of staff with responsibility for Child Protection issues. The child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process.

The role of the Headteacher and Governing body

It is the responsibility of the Governors to ensure that as well as fulfilling their legal obligations, the governing boards or management committee should also make sure that:

- all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes in regard to RSHE;
- RSHE is well led, effectively managed and well planned;
- the quality of RSHE provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation;
- teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND;
- clear information is provided for parents on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn; and,
- the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures that the school can fulfil its legal obligations

The head teacher liaises with external agencies regarding the school RSHE programme and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework. The head teacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy. Parents should be consulted on the RSE policy and have the opportunity to express their views. They also must be informed of the limits of their right to withdraw their child from sex education and have the opportunity to do so within these limits.

Monitoring and Review

The Curriculum Committee of the governing body monitors the impact of our sex education policy on an annual basis. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The Curriculum Committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents and carers about the sex education programme and makes a record of all such comments. Governors require the Head Teacher to keep a written record, giving details of the content and delivery of our sex education programme. This policy will be reviewed every two years, or earlier if necessary.

Review of the Policy

REVIEWED: September 2023

NEXT REVIEW: September 2024