



# Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSE) Policy

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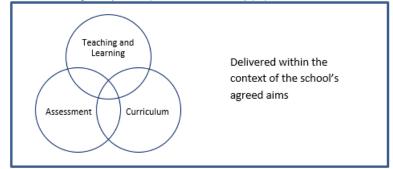
#### 1 Introduction and aims

Schools and colleges play a crucial role in preventative education. Preventative education is most effective in the context of a whole-school or college approach that prepares pupils and students for life in modern Britain and creates a culture of zero tolerance for sexism, misogyny/misandry, homo/bi/trans phobia and sexual violence/harassment. This policy applies to all students, including those in the Early Years.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that our Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) supports our school ethos and fulfils our school aims, which are defined as:

- To inspire pupils through an education of breadth and depth.
- To provide a safe and supportive school environment underpinned by excellent pastoral care, where each pupil can feel happy, confident, and valued as an individual.
- To foster a vibrant school community, built on trust, tolerance, and respect, and instil a sense
  of social responsibility.
- To provide a rich and stimulating school experience, where our pupils can explore and develop their interests and talents and discover new ones.
- To provide a nurturing family atmosphere in which every pupil can thrive and achieve.





policy forms part of the curriculum.

- 1.2 We see the curriculum as, 'The total learning experience for our students, which includes not only the taught lessons but also the routines, behaviours, events, activities and other opportunities that our students experience on a daily, weekly and yearly basis in order to ensure that all of them make the best progress possible and attain high standards'.
- 1.3 A well-structured and coherent curriculum is a fundamental element of the tripartite education that underpins all successful schools and includes Teaching, Learning and Assessment (see model below) and is underpinned by Wellbeing.

The aims of RSE at our school are to:

- 1.4 Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place.
- 1.5 Prepare students for puberty, give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene.
- 1.6 Help students develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy.

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- 1.7 Create a positive culture around sexuality and relationships.
- 1.8 Teach students the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.
- 1.9 Help students understand that healthy relationships are an important part of wellbeing.
- 1.10 Prevent students from becoming involved in child-on-child abuse, and /or experiencing harm in school/in the community

#### 2 Statutory requirements

- 2.1 Our policy follows the statutory guidance given by the government (DfE) and meets the requirements of the Independent School Standards. Aspects of RSE are infused within the day-to-day operation of our school; incorporated through the curriculum, both in content included in subject schemes of work and through other planned learning opportunities in the school. They are captured in our written aims and expressed in the ethos and behaviours of everyone.
- 2.2 As a Preparatory School, we must ensure that every registered student who is provided with primary education at the school is provided with relationships education, in accordance with section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the Independent School Standards
- 2.3 As a Secondary school, we must ensure that every registered pupil who is provided with secondary education at the school is provided with relationships and sex education, except in so far as the pupil is excused as mentioned in sub-paragraph 9, in accordance with section 34 of Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the Independent School Standards, and with regard to guidance outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

At Long Close School, we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

#### 3 Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, students and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

- Review The PSHE Lead reviewed all relevant information, including but not limited
  to, relevant national and local guidance including regard to the school's obligations
  under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010, (including the Public Sector
  Equality Duty), and their local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.
- The policy was drafted in accordance with statutory guidance and aligned with the Independent School Regulations/BSO Standards. The school curriculum plans were amended accordingly.
- Staff consultation school staff were given the opportunity to review the policy and make recommendations.
- Parent/stakeholder consultation parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy and offer commentary.
- Student consultation students were consulted with about their RSE lessons in the annual voice of the student survey.

- Ratification once amendments were made, the policy was published.
- Policy review this policy will be reviewed every three years.

#### 4 Definition

- 4.1 RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of students, and involves learning about healthy relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.
- 4.2 RSE involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values.
- 4.3 RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity, sexual orientation, or a specific sexual identity.

#### 5 Curriculum

- 5.1 Our curriculum is set out in Appendix 1, but we may need to adapt this as and when necessary.
- 5.2 We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, students and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of students.
- 5.3 Primary sex education will focus on:
  - Preparing all students for the changes that adolescence brings; and
  - · How a baby is conceived and born.

#### It will:

- consider the ages, aptitudes and needs of all pupils, including those pupils with SEND/ and an EHC plan.
- ii. not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; and
- ensure that discriminatory, extremist opinions or behaviours are challenged as a matter of routine.
- 5.4 For more information about our curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2 and our Curriculum Policy

### 6 Delivery of RSE

- Our RSE is taught as part of our PSHE curriculum following the Jigsaw scheme of learning across all phases of the school. The PSHE course is delivered to all students through discrete PSHE lessons taught by our teachers. There is one lesson of taught PSHE a week. Elements of the programme may be supported through the bringing in of additional expertise, such as outside speakers, trained health professionals, or the use of teachers with a particular interest or knowledge in a specific area. In addition to these discrete sessions, PSHEE is also embedded within the curriculum (e.g., social issues through the teaching of English Literature; Health through Biology and PE; Citizenship through History & RE).
- 6.2 Relationships education in the prep school 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
- Building positive relationships
- Trusted adults
- 6.3 RSE in the senior school focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, including:
  - Families
  - Respectful relationships, including friendships
  - Online and media
  - Being safe
  - · Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health
- 6.4 For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2 and our Curriculum Policy.
- 6.5 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, LGBTQ+ parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster 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).

#### 7 Roles and responsibilities

#### Staff & Governance

### 1.1 PSHE Lead Teacher

The person with responsibility for the overview and yearly evaluation of this policy is Alice Bluck – PSHE lead. However, all staff are responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented and acted on.

When evaluating the use and impact of this policy, our school leaders will evaluate the extent to which there is evidence of a curriculum which:

- · Fulfils the aims of the school;
- Embeds aspiration, attributes and the expectation to achieve high standards and high rates of progress; and
- Provides engagement and excitement for learning.

#### 7.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw students from non-science components of RSE (see section 8).

### 7.3 The Chair of Governors

The Chair of Governors will hold the Headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy.

The Chair of Governors will ensure that:

- · all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes;
- · the subjects are well led, effectively managed and well planned;
- the quality of provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation;
- teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND (see below);

- Teaching is sensitive to the needs of all students with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010
- 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.

#### 7.4 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way;
- · Modelling positive attitudes to RSE;
- Monitoring progress;
- · Responding to the needs of individual students; and
- Responding appropriately to students whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-science components of RSE.

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher.

All staff are trained to teach RSE and the responsibility for teaching this topic in each year group lies with the induvial classes PSHE teacher.

#### 8 Students

Students are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

#### 8.1 Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Our curriculum is inclusive and our RSE and Health Education is accessible for all students. For those pupils with special educational needs or specific learning difficulties, the school has a well-established Learning Support department, led by the SENCO. Further details of this provision can be found in our Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy.

High quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised will be the starting point to ensure accessibility.

As set out in the SEND code of practice, when teaching these subjects to those with SEND, Long Close School is mindful of preparing students for adulthood.

Long Close School is aware that some pupils are more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND. Relationships Education and RSE can also be particularly important subjects for some pupils; for example, those with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs or learning disabilities. Such factors will be taken into consideration in designing and teaching these subjects.

#### 9 Parents' right to withdraw

9.1 If parents require more information on RSE for primary aged children, this is a useful source of information:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_d ata/file/812593/RSE primary schools guide for parents.pdf

- 9.2 If parents require more information on RSE for secondary aged children, this is a useful source of information:
  - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/812594/RSE\_secondary\_schools\_quide\_for\_parents.pdf
- 9.3 Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.
- 9.4 Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-science components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the Headteacher.

A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The Headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

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

#### 10 Training

- 10.1 Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development programme. All staff have completed the NSPCC 'talk relationships' training and have taken part in internal training with our PSHE and RSE lead on how to deliver RSE lessons. All staff have access to courses and resources provided by 'The Wellbeing Hub' and Teen Tips to allow for continuing professional development of RSE.
- 10.2 The Headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

#### 11 Monitoring arrangements

- 11.1 The delivery of RSE is monitored by Alice Bluck (PSHE lead) and Andy Bowden (Head of Senior School) through:
  - · Lesson observations
  - · Book scrutinise
  - · Opportunities for team teaching and observations by staff of good practice
- 11.2 Students' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

## Appendix 1: Curriculum Map

## **Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum Map**

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 1	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:      Families     Making friends     Greetings     People who help us     Being my own best friend     Celebrating my special relationships Changing me:     Life cycles     Changing me     My changing body     Boys' and girls' bodies     Learning and growing     Coping with changes	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal. Parents will be invited into school to view these resources before relationships education is taught in this year group.

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 2	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:  Families  Keeping safe – exploring physical contact  Friends and conflict  Secrets  Trust and appreciation  Celebrating my special relationships  Changing me:  Life cycles in nature  Growing from old to young  The changing me  Boys' and girls' bodies  Assertiveness  Looking ahead	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal. Parents will be invited into school to view these resources before relationships education is taught in this year group.

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 3	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:      Family roles and responsibilities     Friendships     Keeping myself safe online     Being a global citizen     Celebrating my web of relationships Changing me:     How babies grow     Babies     Outside body changes     Inside body changes     Family stereotypes     Looking ahead	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal. Parents will be invited into school to view these resources before relationships education is taught in this year group.

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 4	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:      Jealousy     Love and loss     Memories     Getting on and falling out     Girlfriends and boyfriends     Celebrating my relationships with people and animals  Changing me:     Unique me     Having a baby     Puberty     Circles of change     Accepting change     Looking ahead	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal. Parents will be invited into school to view these resources before relationships education is taught in this year group.

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 5	Relationships – Summer 1 Changing me – Autumn 2	Relationships:  Recognising me Safety with online communities Being in and online community Online gaming My relationship with technology: screen time Relationships and technology Changing me: Self and body image Puberty for girls Puberty for boys Conception The year ahead	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal. Parents will be invited into school to view these resources before relationships education is taught in this year group.

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 6	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:  What is mental health?  My mental health  Love and Loss  Power and control  Being online: real or fake? safe or unsafe?  Using technology responsibly  Changing me:  My self-image  Puberty  Boyfriends and Girlfriends  Adolescent friendships  Real self and ideal self  The year ahead	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal. Parents will be invited into school to view these resources before relationships education is taught in this year group.
Year 7	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:  Positive qualities of healthy relationships My changing supportive relationships Getting on and falling out Discerning external factors in relationships Assertiveness in relationships Changing me: My changing body Having a baby Types of relationships and their impact Images and self-esteem My changing feelings	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal.

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 8	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:      Being in control of myself     Being in control of my relationships     Being in control of personal space     Managing control and coercion in relationships     Being in control of social media Changing me:     Different types of relationships     What's in a relationship?     Looks and smiles     Does watching pornography help people to understand relationships?     Alcohol and Risk	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal.
Year 9	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:  Power in relationships  Assertiveness and saying no  Porn – is it real?  Contraception  Consequences of unprotected sex  Changing me:  Mental health  Changing and our emotions  Better sleep  Resilience  Changing and growing	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal.

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC DETAIL	RESOURCES
Year 10	Summer 1 and 2	Relationships:      Healthy long-term relationships     Love and loss     Healthy connections     Relationships – don't' believe what you see!     Better together? Changing me:     Changing society and me     Managing change and decision-making     Gender identity     Stereotypes and exploring relationships     Physical and emotional changes	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal.
Year 11	Summer	Relationships:  Intimate romantic relationships Gender diversity and sexuality Coming out as LGBT+ Who holds all the cards? The last taboos	All resources are accessed through our online Jigsaw portal.

Appendix 2: By the end of primary school, students should know:

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Families and	That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability
people who care about me	• The characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives
	• That others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care
	• That stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up
	• That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong
	How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed
Caring	How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends
friendships	• The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties
	That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded
	• That most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right
	How to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Respectful relationships	The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs
	Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships
	The conventions of courtesy and manners
	The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness
	That in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority
	About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help
	What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive
	The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults
Online	That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
relationships	That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous
	The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them
	How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
	How information and data is shared and used online
Being safe	What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)
	About the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe
	That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact
	How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know
	How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult
	How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard
	How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so
	Where to get advice e.g., family, school and/or other sources

Appendix 2: By the end of secondary school, students should know:

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Families	That there are different types of committed, stable relationships
	How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children
	What marriage is, including their legal status e.g., that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony
	Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into
	The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships
	The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting
	How to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend, intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others' relationships); and, how to seek help or advice, including reporting concerns about others, if needed
Respectful relationships, including	The characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship
friendships	Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships
	How stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g., how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice)
	• That in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs
	About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help
	That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control
	What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable
	• The legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Online and media	Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online
	About online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online
	Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them
	What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online
	The impact of viewing harmful content
	• That specifically sexually explicit material e.g., pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners
	That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail
	How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online
Being safe	The concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships
	How people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online)

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health	How to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship
	• That all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g., physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing
	The facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women
	That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others
	That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex
	The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available
	The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage
	• That there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help)
	How the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing
	About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment
	How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour
	How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment

#### Appendix 3: Parent form: Withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLE	TED BY PARENTS		
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdr	awing from sex education with	nin relationsl	hips and sex education
Any other informa	tion you would like the school	to consider	
Parent signature			
TO BE COMPLET	TED BY THE SCHOOL		
Agreed actions			
from discussion with parents			

Appendix 4: DfE RSE Statutory Guidance Suggested Resources
Link to Annex B (page 46) in DfE Relationship Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education guidance – Suggested resources:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/805781/Relationships\_Education\_Relationships\_and\_Sex\_Education\_RSE\_and\_Health\_Educ ation.pdf

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Related documentation	
Related documentation	Curriculum Policy
	SEND Policy
	EAL Policy
	Prevent Duty
	Early Years Policy, where relevant
	Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures
	Independent School Standards