



Relationships and Sex Education Policy (RSE)

Endeavour Multi Academy Trust

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Summer Term 2024	V1.0	New policy drafting to be used by all Endeavour schools
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Introduction

Endeavour Multi Academy Trust's Relationship and Sex Education policy is based on the DfES guidance document 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' [ref DfES 0116/2000]. In this document sex education is defined as:

'Lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.'

Relationships and sex education is an equally important area of the curriculum for pupils with Special Educational Needs. Planning and implementation needs to involve sensitivity and discretion.

RSE is embedded in the non-statutory framework for PHSE and Citizenship, and the statutory curriculum for Science.

We believe that Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) makes an essential contribution to every student's health, wellbeing and preparation for adult life in society. Effective RSE is essential if young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. A comprehensive programme of RSE provides accurate information about the body, reproduction, sex, and sexual health. It also gives pupils essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline.

Relationship Education is compulsory for all primary age children and Relationships and Sex Education is compulsory for all secondary age children.

The aim of this policy is:

- to endorse the entitlement of all pupils in our Trust to RSE
- to ensure that appropriate guidance is available for the staff that will deliver the programme of RSE in the Trust
- to specify the right of parents to withdraw their children from all or part of RSE

Relationships and Sex Education is part of lifelong learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships and sexual health. It contributes to the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the experiences, rights and responsibilities of adult life.

The Department for Education have included the teaching of LGBT in the statutory guidance, Endeavour Multi Academy Trust will ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and all teaching is sensitive and age appropriate in approach and content. It is important that all young people understand the importance of equality and respect.

Objectives:

RSE includes the following elements:

Attitudes and Values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
- learning the value of family life and stable loving relationships for the nurture of children
- learning the value of respect, love and care
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas
- developing critical thinking as part of decision making

Personal and Social Skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- developing self-respect and empathy for others
- learning to make choices based on understanding of differences and with an absence of prejudice
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- managing conflict
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

Knowledge and Understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national health advice, contraception and support services (including education about HIV and AIDS - and other sexually transmitted diseases)
- supporting pupils to make wise and informed choices regarding sexual activity
- developing an awareness of sex and the law

- developing an understanding of the diversity of relationships and sexuality
- an understanding of the difference between consenting and exploitative relationships
- understanding internet safety issues such as sexting and sharing of images

All pupils are entitled to Sex and Relationship Education. We will provide a coherent, well-balanced RSE programme that:

- reflects the age and maturity of the pupils
- meets the particular needs of all identified genders

Content and Organisation

Relationships and Sex Education is not an isolated subject. It permeates the whole school curriculum, the ethos of the school and the pastoral system.

Many subjects, but particularly Science, Religious Studies and PSHE explore some elements of Relationship and Sex Education.

Endeavour Multi Academy Trust creates a supportive and secure atmosphere where pupils can develop confidence to talk, question, listen and reflect on their learning about RSE. Prior knowledge and understanding will be assessed at the beginning of each unit of study, to inform planning and delivery of subject content.

Staff will:

- establish clear ground rules with pupils
- emphasise the importance of mutual respect
- use distancing techniques
- encourage reflection

Confidentiality

- Endeavour Multi Academy Trust is aware that effective relationships and sex education can lead to the disclosure of a Child Protection issue and this will be acted on in accordance with each school's Safeguarding Policy.
- Teachers cannot offer or guarantee absolute confidentiality in some matters and pupils will be made aware of this.

Parents' Right of Withdrawal

Parents cannot withdraw their children from Relationships Education, Health Education, or the Science curriculum. However, parents can withdraw their children from aspects of sex education which are covered within the Relationships Education curriculum. Endeavour Multi Academy Trust define sex education as the teaching of the act of sexual intercourse, contraception, sexually transmitted infections (STI's) and pornography. Therefore, these lessons are the only lessons that pupils can be withdrawn from. However, pupils can opt into sex education three terms before they turn 16. Please note that these topics are not taught until Year 11. Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from the teaching of the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction that are included in the National Curriculum for Science.

Appendices

Appendix 1:

Cherry Trees and Two Rivers Primary School:

The primary schools follow the Staffordshire County Council guidance and use the Jigsaw-Scheme of Work which has clear guidelines on appropriate themes for teaching RSE. Our primary schools use the 'So Safe' programme to ensure all our children learn social safety. This is a specific programme designed for young people with special educational needs. In the Jigsaw Programme RSE is taught in a progressive and planned way throughout each year of school in line with the updated National Curriculum Guidance for 2021. The Sensory Phases follow the Equals Programme.

Science Delivery of RSE

EYFS - during the children's time in early years, their Science experiences will be based on self-awareness.

Key Stage 1 - the children begin to learn about different body parts and using their senses. They explore the seasonal changes and how to dress appropriately. The NSPCC 'Pants Rule' is introduced.

Topics within Years 3/4 - look at how to keep our bodies healthy, including healthy diet and the importance of exercise. They will also explore in depth, different habitats. Looking at how humans and animals adapt to their environment and the things they need to survive.

Year 5 - continues to look at habitats and surviving within their environment. They begin to look at life cycles of animals and plants to understand how each animal including humans change. They will look specifically at how we know a human is alive and what they need such as nutrition, movement, reproduction and respiration.

Year 6 - cover the topics evolution and inheritance, this is adapted according to different abilities within the year.

Themes for discrete RSE sessions for Year 5 and Year 6 pupils include:

1. Understanding how their bodies are changing.
2. What is private and what is public?
3. Puberty and menstruation.
4. Personal space.
5. Saying 'No'.
6. Personal hygiene.
7. Changing emotions and feelings.
8. Clever never goes.
9. Transition.

Appendix 2:

Wightwick Hall School

RSE is taught within the wider PSHE scheme of work. At Wightwick Hall School we recognise the varied ability of our pupils, therefore each department follow different schemes of work.

Bannatyne Department KS3 and KS4 follow the PSHE Association Programme of study. The statutory guidance is comprehensively covered by learning opportunities for each key stage across the programme's three core themes: **Health and Wellbeing, Relationships**, and **Living in the Wider World**. Lessons are taught using a range of learning materials from PSHE Association approved educational companies and teacher made. All resources and lessons used are at taught at developmental stages of the pupils.

Bannatyne Department KS5 follow the AQA Unit Award Scheme which meets the requirements of the statutory guidance for RSE. The units covered over KS5 are; Emotion Health and Wellbeing, Keeping Safe and Healthy, Social Media, Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs, Sexual Health, Respectful Relationships and Families and Parenting. Lessons are taught using a range of learning materials from AQA UAS, PSHE Association approved educational companies and teacher made. All resources and lessons used are taught at the developmental stages of the pupils.

Willow Department follow the Twinkl Life PSHE structure and Citizenship Scheme of Work. The statutory guidance is comprehensively covered by learning opportunities for each key stage across the programme's three core themes: **Health and Wellbeing, Relationships**, and **Living in the Wider World** and **Citizenship**. Lessons are taught using a range of learning materials from Twinkl, PSHE Association approved educational companies and teacher made. All resources and lessons used are taught at developmental stages of the pupils.

Hickman House Department follow the AQA Unit Award Scheme. The statutory guidance is comprehensively covered by learning opportunities for each key stage across the programme's three core themes: **Health and Wellbeing, Relationships**, and **Living in the Wider World** and **Citizenship**. Lessons are taught using a range of learning materials, all resources and lessons used are taught at developmental stages of the pupils.

Appendix 3:

Two Rivers High School

Relationship and Sex Education is taught in various subjects including PHSEE (see PSHEE Policy for the High School Curriculum), Science and during tutor times.

Key Stage 3 (MLD)	Diversity, prejudice and discrimination with a focus on bullying and racism, hygiene, healthy relationships and resolving conflicts with friends and family.
Key Stages 4 & 5 (MLD)	ASDAN Sex and Relationships short course, visits and workshops from external agencies and charities i.e. Teen Spirit, SARAC.
SLD Groups	Being Healthy, Staying Safe, Getting on with other people, So Safe Programme.