



1. Aims

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

- 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
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships, including the importance of family for the care and support of children
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Enable children to identify inappropriate behaviour and have the confidence to communicate their concerns,

In our academy RSE will be taught with reference to our Christian ethos and values (respect: endurance: friendship) and therefore we particularly focus upon the following areas:

Attitudes and Values

- The importance of family life.
- Moral questions.
- Relationship issues.

Personal and Social Skills

- Respect for the views of other people.
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others.

Knowledge and Understanding

- The physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults.
- The way humans reproduce.
- Respect for their own bodies.

Context

Within the academy the distinctive Christian characteristic of the school provides the context within which all personal development takes place. This means that Christian values and attitudes – with the emphasis upon the importance of marriage, the family and stable relationships to build a child's self-esteem, self-awareness and a sense of moral responsibility – will permeate all the curriculum – both explicit and hidden. It is taught in the context of marriage and family life. RSE is part of a child's broad, balanced curriculum, integral to the basic curriculum of the school and part of the child's all round development.

Accountability for the implementation of the RSE Policy lies within the Local Academy Committee.

2. Statutory requirements

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

We have chosen to follow the National Curriculum including requirements to teach science which would include the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum. In teaching RSE, we are required by our funding agreements to have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

This policy has due regard to legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Section 80A of the Education Act 2002
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE (2019) 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education'
- DfE (2013) 'Science programmes of study: key stages 1 and 2'
- DfE (2020) 'Teaching about relationships, sex and health'

At Christ Church CE Primary Academy we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development:

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

1. Review – Mrs P Scattergood to pull together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Staff consultation – the proposed policy was then shared with all staff to ascertain their views.
3. Governors from the LAC – Mr A Colclough and Fr Tommy Merry were also consulted when preparing the policy.
4. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and carers were invited to share their views on the proposed policy via Class Dojo.
5. Pupil consultation – we investigated the needs of the pupils through pupil conversations.
6. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with all the members of the LAC and ratified

4. 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.
- RSE is **not** about the promotion of sexual activity.

5. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary. We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

Primary sex education is not compulsory but will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum see appendix 3. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional in Y5 and Y6. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from these lessons.

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

7. For more information about our RSE curriculum please see the appendices:

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 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).

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 The Local Academy Committee (LAC)

The LAC will approve the RSE policy, and hold the Principal to account for its implementation. The teacher Governor was part of the working group to develop this policy. The LAC are regularly updated at meetings of any new developments.

8.2 The Principal

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory/non-science components of RSE

8.3 The PHSE Lead

RSE education will be supported by the PHSE Curriculum which is led by the PHSE Lead.

8.4 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Regular monitoring of progress through School's Assessment System
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Attending CPD meetings regarding RSE
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory 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 Principal.

8.5 Pupils

- Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity. Pupils are encouraged to reflect upon their learning throughout each unit and revisit it as they move through the school.

8.6 The role of other members of the community

- We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to health education. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority, such as the school nurse and other health professionals, give us valuable support with our sex education programme. Other people that we call on include local clergy, social workers and youth workers.

9. Parent's 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 non-statutory/non-science components of sex education within RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 2 of this policy and addressed to the Principal.

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

If parents have any concerns they are encouraged to contact the school or visit the school website

10. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The Principal 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

The delivery of RSE is monitored by Mrs P Scattergood through: planning scrutinies; learning walks; lesson observations and work scrutiny.

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by Mrs P Scattergood, Vice Principal, annually. [At every review, the policy will be approved by the LAC].

12.Safeguarding

- Staff are aware that effective RSE which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. In this case the Staff will follow the procedures within the School’s Safeguarding policy.
- Visitors who support the delivery of RSE will be required to follow the guidelines within our policy.
- Staff will be updated where appropriate of known vulnerable children and discuss the planning of lessons with the DSL.

Equality Statement

We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

Signed (Chair of LAC) _____

Signed (Principal) _____

<u>Date</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Review Date</u>
Summer 2021	New policy to comply with RSE Curriculum and expectations	Summer 2022

Appendix 1: By the end of primary school pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families and people who care about me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability • 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 friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends • 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	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Respectful relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not • 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

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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:

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	

Learning with God and Each Other to be the Best We Can Be