

Rush Green Primary School



‘Strive to Succeed’

Relationship and Sex Education Policy

Review date: September 2025

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1. Rationale

Relationship and Sex Education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care both on and offline. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity as this would be inappropriate teaching. Effective RSE as part of PSHE, along with Science and other National Curriculum subjects and within a whole-school approach is essential if young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their lives.

The statutory guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education states that:

“Relationships Education (is) compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education and...Health Education (is) compulsory in all schools.”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-educationrelationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

In Barking and Dagenham the teenage pregnancy rates are high, higher than Havering, Redbridge and London as a whole and the National Average. This is clearly unacceptable. Not only are there obvious risks to health, but this also leads to greater dependence, undermining potential achievement in education and further employment, placing greater stress on the young person and their family and denying choices available to others.

Our school is committed to Healthy Schools London, whereby Relationship and Sex Education is a key element. <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-wedo/health/healthy-schools-london/awards/resources/healthytakeaways/personal-social-health-and-economic-education-pshee>

As part of our partnership with parents and stakeholders a working party reviewed this policy they said:

“Given the day and age we are in the curriculum is important for our children. It is reassuring to know the topics and the extent it will be covered.” Parent in Reception and Year Two.

“Children need to know this, it is important they have the knowledge in today’s society” Parent in Year Six

“Any area’s of concern I had have been addressed by the policy” Parent Year Four

2. Purpose

Our objective is to support and help our pupils through their physical, emotional and moral development. We will help our pupils to move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.

Effective relationship and sex education does not encourage sexual experimentation. It will teach young people to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others. Our pupils will be enabled to mature, to build up their confidence and self-esteem and understand the reasons for delaying sexual activity.

Pupils will be given accurate information and helped to develop skills to enable them to understand difference and respect themselves and others and for the purpose also of preventing and removing prejudice.

3. Guidelines

1. Relationship and Sex Education is taught within our PSHE curriculum (Jigsaw) it is also closely linked to the Science curriculum.
2. The children are taught within mixed gender groups however in years 5 and 6 the opportunity will be made available for single sex groups to discuss specific issues.

3. All resources are saved on the school staff system under the folder 'Jigsaw'.
4. The SLT will organise training for staff in this area.
5. Parents of children throughout the whole school will have an opportunity to view the curriculum overview online via the school website. Parents that are still concerned may discuss their views with the PSHE lead or Head-teacher. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from parts of the RSHE curriculum that are not covered by either the Science curriculum, Relationship Education or Health Education. It should also be made clear to parents that their child will probably learn second hand information from their peers within the playground and this may not be accurate or, seek information from other sources which may be incorrect, confusing or frightening.
6. Pupils will have the opportunity to offer ideas and suggestions about their learning via an anonymous suggestion box within their classroom. Questions that are not deemed age appropriate will be referred back to parents.
7. This policy will be updated as required.

Signed: Head Teacher

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