

Relationships and sex education policy



Ewelme Church of England
(VA) Primary School

Ready Respectful Responsible Reflective Resilient

Draft

Approved by:

FGB

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1. Aims

The aims of relationships 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
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- By achieving the aims above, our RSE helps to ensure our pupils develop a **respectful** and **responsible** attitude towards issues of sexuality and relationships and are **ready** for the changes they and their peers will experience as they get older

2. Statutory requirements

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

However, we are not required to provide sex education but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RSE, we must have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

At Ewelme C.E. Primary School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development:

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils, parents and governors

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 will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1. Further information about the primary sex education lessons will also be available for parents to view on the website.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum.

At Ewelme, we use the planning and teaching resources included in the Jigsaw programme. Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and friendships;
- Safe relationships;
- Respecting ourselves and others

Sex education focuses on:

- Naming body parts using the correct terminology
- Understanding puberty, including menstruation
- What sexual intercourse is, how pregnancy occurs, use of contraception

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see the information booklet for parents/carers created by Jigsaw to accompany their PSHE program which is used in school: <https://ewelmeprimaryschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/rshe-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-leaflet-sep-2023.pdf>

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).

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RSE policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

7.2 The headteacher

The headteacher 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 (see section 8).

7.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- › Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- › Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- › Monitoring progress
- › Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- › Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the [non-statutory/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.

RSE is taught by the class teachers and the head teacher.

7.4 Pupils

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

8. Parents' 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 components of sex education within RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 1 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher. A paper copy of this form can be obtained from the school office upon request.

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

9. Training

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

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.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the head teacher and/or PSHE curriculum leader through:

- Learning walks
- Lesson observations/drop-ins
- Work scrutinies/book looks

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

This policy will be reviewed by the head teacher [annually]. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.

Appendix 1: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE



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Withdrawal from sex education within RSE

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 | |
| | |