

Hawridge and Cholesbury CE School



Sex Education Policy

Date: January 2023

Review Date: January 2026

1. Our school vision and values

Our vision is for every child within the Hawridge & Cholesbury family to grow, flourish, **'have life andhave it more abundantly'** (John 10:10 KLV); to be fascinated, rounded, eager to make a difference, spiritual and have high aspirations through Jesus' teaching and our curriculum. We live our vision through our natural setting and our school values of Respect, Teamwork, Responsibility, Understanding, Peace and Honesty.

We undertake to follow the principles in the Church of England Charter for faith sensitive and inclusive relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education (RSHE).

2. School ethos

At Hawridge and Cholesbury school we are committed to providing a holistic approach to education which aims to support the academic, cultural, personal and social development of all our pupils.

In September 2020 statutory Relationships Education and Health Education became part of the taught curriculum within PSHE. This is an essential part of a child's education and contributes to their personal development. Sex Education is not statutory at primary, but recommended by the DfE. We teach Sex Education as part of our Relationships Education within the planned PSHE curriculum. As a Church of England school along with this policy we will be following the RSHE Charter from The Church of England Office (Appendix 4).

3. Aims of the Sex Education policy

In this policy, we aim to define the Sex Education taught at Hawridge & Cholesbury C of E School which is taught in addition to that covered by our Science curriculum. We will outline the subject content, how it will be taught and who is responsible for teaching it. Parents/ carers have the right to withdraw their children from non-statutory sex education lessons and the school has protocols established to facilitate this.

This policy was agreed following consultation with parents. We work with parents, offering support in talking to their children about sex education and how to link this to what is being taught in school.

It is the statutory responsibility of the governing body to ensure the school has a compliant and up to date Sex Education Policy.

All state funded primary schools are required to teach Relationships Education and to have a Relationships Education policy (please see our Relationship Education Policy).

The aim of this policy is to:

- Provide information to staff, parents and carers, governors, pupils and other agencies regarding the organisation, content and approach to the teaching of Sex Education.
- Help parents and carers to understand what is covered in Sex Education and Relationship education and support them to work with their child to secure the very best outcomes for all pupils.

- Demonstrate how the school meets legal requirements with regards to teaching Sex Education.
- Give clear guidance on the teaching of SRE teaching as a Church of England School (Appendix 4).

Legal Requirements

To comply with The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 which made Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education. They also made Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools.

To comply with the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education statutory guidance from the DfE (Sep 2021).

To comply with the requirements to have an up to date RSE policy developed in consultation with pupils, parents and carers (Education Act 1996) and in line with the DfE statutory guidance on Relationships Education, RSE and Health Education(Sep 2021).

To have due regard to the Equality Act (2010) which requires schools to prevent discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relation between different groups . The protected characteristics that apply to school age children are disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents

To fulfil statutory safeguarding duties and ensure any safeguarding issues arising from Relationships/ Sex Education teaching are identified and followed in accordance with the school safeguarding policy.

4. Parents'/ carers right to withdraw

At Hawridge and Cholesbury C of E school we teach Sex Education as part of our Relationships and PSHE curriculum. As Sex Education is not statutory at primary we wish to state the right of parents and carers to withdraw their child from designated Sex Education lessons. We encourage parents/ carers to make an appointment to come in and speak to the Headteacher about any concerns they may have. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing.

Parents and carers do not have the right to withdraw their child from PSHE which includes statutory Relationships Education and Health Education (including the changing adolescent body/puberty). The science curriculum also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from. We highly recommend all students receive the full PSHCE curriculum.

5. Development of the policy

This policy was developed by the PSHE lead in consultation with school governors, parents and pupils.

This policy links to the PSHE policy, Relationships Education Policy, Child Protection Policy, Equalities policy, Anti-Bullying Policy and the School Behaviour policy.

We aim to work collaboratively with parents/ carers to ensure pupils receive Sex Education lessons that are relevant and age appropriate and sensitive to the needs of the community we serve. We welcome parents and carers to make an appointment to come in to discuss any aspect of this policy and the provision in school.

6. Definition of Sex Education

Sex Education at Hawridge and Cholesbury C of E school is taught through the PSHE curriculum as part Relationships Education. Sex education is taught in addition to the statutory science curriculum and provides factual and age appropriate knowledge about conception and birth. In preparation for the secondary RSE curriculum, sex education teaches pupils to recognise the difference between intimate and non-intimate relationships, promotes healthy committed relationships including marriage, consent and the values and responsibilities required to build healthy adult relationships. It also teaches pupils the legal age for marriage and consensual sexual relationships, to recognise their right to their own physical and emotional personal space, how to keep themselves safe, and how to report concerns or issues. Puberty Education is part of statutory Health Education and parents/cares do not have the right to withdraw their child from this aspect of the curriculum.

7. The Curriculum

Intent

Why teach Sex Education?

The DfE states in the statutory Relationships, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education guidance (page 23):

'It is important that the transition phase before moving to secondary school supports pupils' ongoing emotional and physical development effectively. The department continues to recommend therefore that all primary schools school have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge from the national currciulum for science – how a baby is conceived and born'.

High quality Sex Education supports pupils to:

- Be taught factual and correct information about how a baby is conceived and born
- Explore in a safe and managed environment questions they may have about puberty and give them an age appropriate understanding of sexual development
- Understand that all intimate relationships should be consensual and based on love and respect
- Understand the law and be taught that intimate relationships are for consenting adults
- Understand the importance of marriage and committed relationships and learn about different cultural and religious approaches to this
- Recognise and establish their own personal boundaries, and privacy relating to their own bodies and are taught the scientific names for all body parts.
- Dispel myths and incorrect information about sex and how a baby is conceived and born
- Recognise unhealthy relationships, inappropriate behaviour and to report concerns or abuse,(including signposting to trusted online support services such as Childline)

- Ask a trusted adult rather than go online with regards to any concerns or questions they may have and avoid viewing any inappropriate material or entering into social media conversations

Implementation

Sex Education is delivered through the Relationships curriculum as part of PSHE education. To ensure the content and delivery of sex education is appropriate and relevant to our pupils we use simple baselines to ascertain what pupils already know and find out what they would like to learn.

Distancing techniques are used in PSHE education, which provide depersonalised examples which support children to explore what is being taught without sharing their own personal experiences in the lesson.

What we use

At Hawridge and Cholesbury we use the Jigsaw PSHE materials as well as teaching materials and resources from the PSHE Association where appropriate

Who

Class teachers teach this with two adults in the classroom.

When

Sex Education is part of the PSHE curriculum in Years 5 and 6 as well as the Science curriculum.

*We teach the scientific names of body parts throughout the school.

Managing Difficult Questions

All aspects of PSHE are underpinned by shared and understood ground rules with lessons being delivered in a safe and well managed environment. Pupils are encouraged to ask questions and raise issues in a respectful and appropriate manner. Some questions or issues raised may not be appropriately answered in whole class lessons and these will be followed up separately on an individual or group basis. Given ease of access to the internet, children whose questions go unanswered may turn to inappropriate sources of information. We also respect that some questions are better addressed at home with parents/ carers and the school will share information with parents/carers on an individual basis should the need arise.

Whilst it is vital to have trust and openness we cannot offer total confidentiality to pupils. Any disclosures or areas of concern will be followed up in accordance with our safeguarding procedures.

How delivery and content will be made accessible to all pupils including those with SEND

We ensure that PSHE and sex education is accessible for all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). This is achieved through high quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised.

We ensure that teaching is sensitive, age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate and delivered with reference to the law.

Impact

High quality sex education will enable our pupils to:

- Have a factual and age appropriate understanding of how babies are made and born
- Understand that intimate and sexual relationships are a natural part of adult life
- Know who to talk to if they have further questions about sex and intimate relationships
- Be aware of and respect different types of relationships in accordance with the Equalities Act
- Know that they will continue to learn about sex education in their secondary school
- Keep themselves safe on line, recognising risks, harmful content, and online contact and be able to report any concerns at the earliest stage
- Know how to keep safe by recognising any inappropriate behaviour from others
- Report concerns or abuse and have the confidence, knowledge and vocabulary to do so.

8. Confidentiality and safeguarding

Any personal disclosures made by pupils will be followed up in accordance with the school's child protection policy. Teachers will report any safeguarding concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) and share concerns with parents/carers according to the school's safeguarding procedures.

9. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body will approve the policy and hold the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring PSHE including Sex Education is taught consistently across the school and for managing requests with regards to the parental right to withdraw from non-statutory Sex Education.

The PSHE lead is responsible for leading and managing the subject. Teachers are responsible for delivering PSHE.

Pupils are expected to fully engage with PSHE provision including sex education and treat others with respect.

10. Working with parents and carers

We keep parents/ carers informed about when sex education will take place. We offer dedicated parent sessions to look at the Jigsaw resources and programme of study used to deliver sex education. Information is also available on our website. Parents /carers are also welcome to make an appointment if they have any further questions or wish to know more about how we teach sex education.

Parents and carers are only entitled to withdraw their child from designated sex education lessons. Parents and carers do not have the right to withdraw their child from PSHE which includes statutory Relationships Education and Health Education (including the changing adolescent body/puberty). The science curriculum also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from. We highly recommend all students receive the full PSHE curriculum. For some guidance for parents from the DfE see Appendix 3.

11. Working with outside agencies and visiting speakers

The school may make use of professionals, such as the school nurse, in the development and implementation of the sex education programme. Such members of the wider community will be made aware of the school's policy and will be required to abide by it.

Any visitor will have their credentials checked and it will be ensured that the teaching delivered is age appropriate and relevant to the current programme of study or needs of the class. It is ensured that the content of the taught material will be accessible for all pupils.

It is agreed how confidentiality will work in any lesson and that the visitor understands how safeguarding reports should be dealt with in line with our school safeguarding policy. A member of teaching staff will remain with visitors at all times.

12. Monitoring, evaluation and training

Sex education and relationship Education will be monitored and evaluated by the PSHE lead, SLT and Governors in line with the monitoring cycle agreed by the school.

To ensure staff are confident to deliver all aspects of the PSHE curriculum including sex education, access to online, in school, local and national training will be made available in accordance with the school's CPD programme for staff development.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Sex Education Curriculum- Jigsaw Progression Map

Please see 'Changing me' puzzle pieces/units in Years 5 and 6.

Appendix 2: Ground rules- an example

Work with pupils to establish a list of ground rules that will increase their feelings of safety and comfort during puberty and sex education classes.

It is essential that the following ground rules be included:

- No personal questions or sharing of private information.
- You have the right to pass on a question.
- No question is silly or stupid.
- Use dictionary words whenever possible.
- Post the list in the classroom and refer to it as needed.

There is a balance between encouraging pupils to talk about real life and over disclosure of private information. Encourage pupils to use the phrase "Someone I know..." instead of the person's name if sharing information of a personal nature.

It may be helpful to frame the ground rules in a creative way, such as:

G...Gigging is okay but laughing at others is not

R...Respect for myself and others is important

O...Option to pass on answering questions is available to all

U...Use dictionary words when describing the body

N...No question is a silly question!

D...Do use "Someone I know..." instead of the person's name

Appendix 3: DfE guide for parents

DfE information for parents

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

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812593/RSE_primary_schools_guide_for_parents.pdf

Statutory Guidance

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

Appendix 4: RSHE Charter from The Church of England Office

https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2019-11/RSHE%20Principles%20and%20Charter_0.pdf