

Relationships & Health Education (RHE) Policy

Churchend Primary Academy



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1. Aims

Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.

The aims of Relationships and Health Education (RHE) at Churchend Primary Academy 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;
- Ensure that pupils of all ages have a good understanding of how to safeguard themselves

RHE at Churchend Primary Academy is about the emotional, social and cultural development of our students and covers topics such as: relationships (including friendships, families, who we can talk to if we are worried), healthy lifestyles (including mental and physical wellbeing, health and the changing adolescent body) and diversity (celebrating who we are and recognising that we are all different and all good at different things).

2. Statutory requirements

As part of an academy, we must provide relationships education to all pupils under section 34 of the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#).

We don't have to follow the National Curriculum, but we are expected to offer all pupils a curriculum that is similar to the National Curriculum including requirements to teach science. This would include the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RHE, we're 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](#).

We also have regard to legal duties set out in:

- Sections 406 and 407 of the Education Act 1996
- Part 6, chapter 1 of the [Equality Act 2010](#)
- The Public Sector Equality Duty (as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). This duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

At Churchend Primary Academy, we teach RHE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with the Designated Safeguarding Leads, the staff and Governors and parents. We recognise that the role of parents as first educators of their children is very important. They have the most significant influence in enabling their children to grow and mature and to form healthy relationships. The school has consulted with a wide range of parents who represent all ages of children in the school and all cultural and religious backgrounds.

All parents are informed when RHE lessons are going to happen (usually in the second half term of the summer term) and parents are able to access all curriculum materials which are used in lessons.

The emphasis in our curriculum is on building successful relationships; however, we understand that the nature of the lessons may generate questions in children's minds that parents need to be prepared to address.

Our school is an inclusive and diverse community and we have developed our schemes of work mindful of our diverse cultural and religious communities within the school. The lessons are all age appropriate and take account of the children's ages and levels of development. Special regard is given to the education of children with special educational needs and they are included in a way which will engage them appropriately.

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 PHSE curriculum is set out in Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

The main teaching of RHE is in the Kapow unit 'Safety and the changing body'; however, many of the themes, such as relationships and families and keeping healthy are woven throughout the scheme of work.

If pupils ask questions outside the scope of the planned lessons, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and don't seek answers online. If appropriate, parents will also be informed.

Some lessons will be taught in single sex groups, although both groups will learn about the physical and emotional changes which happen at puberty to boys and girls.

At the end of Year 4, girls are taught separately about menstrual health.

Primary sex education in Year 6 will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings (changes at puberty)
- How a baby is conceived and born (the human life cycle)

Parents can withdraw their child from parts of these lessons in Year 6 as they are not compulsory. For more information about our curriculum, see Appendix 1.

6. Delivery of RSE

Every child is entitled to receive RHE regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, age, culture, disability, sexuality or special educational needs. It is our intention that all children have the opportunity to experience a programme of RHE at a level which is appropriate for their age and stage of development.

RHE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. At Churchend Primary Academy, we use the Kapow scheme to teach PSHE and therefore follow their lesson outlines for RHE.

RHE 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

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p.23) recommends that all primary schools 'have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils'. Although sex education is not

compulsory in primary schools, at Churchend we believe children should understand about how their bodies are developing, as part of their understanding of puberty and adolescence, and how human reproduction forms part of the human life cycle. We also consider this understanding to be an essential aspect of safeguarding: keeping safe online and personal safety depend on having a clear understanding of safe relationships and who to speak to if they have concerns or feel unsafe. A shared and clear vocabulary is an important aspect of this. We define sex education as part of the human life cycle and we intend to teach this in line with the children's age and stage of development within the statutory science curriculum and PSHE.

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).

For more information about our RHE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The governing board

The governing board will hold the Headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy.

The governing board has delegated the approval of this policy to the Safeguarding Committee which is made up of the Headteacher and other Designated Safeguarding Leads and Governors.

7.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RHE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory/non-science components of RHE (see section 8).

7.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RHE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RHE
- 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 RHE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RHE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RHE are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher.

RHE will be taught by class teachers or HLTAs as directed by the Headteacher.

7.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RHE and, when discussing issues related to RHE, 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 non-statutory/non-science components of sex education within RHE but we do encourage parents to talk through any concerns with the school before taking this step.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the Headteacher.

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

9. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RHE in our continuing professional development schedule.

Kapow also supply professional development training on their RHE materials for staff to access.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RHE is monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and the PSHE Curriculum Leader through:

- Lesson observations and learning walks
- Planning scrutiny
- Monitoring of pupil work
- Staff meetings to review and share ideas

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

This policy will be reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the Safeguarding Committee.

Appendix 1: Curriculum map

Relationships and sex education curriculum map

For a more detailed document showing all coverage for Relationships & Health Education, please select the 'Kapow RHE Overview' document on <https://www.churchendacademy.com/rhe-curriculum/>

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Family and relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to RSE • What is family? • What are friendships? • Family and friends help and support each other • Making friends • Friendship problems • Healthy Friendships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to RSE • Families offer stability and love • Families are all different • Managing friendships • Unhappy friendships • Valuing me • Manners & courtesy • Loss and change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to RSE • Healthy families • Friendships - conflict • Effective communication • Learning who to trust • Respecting differences • Stereotyping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to RSE • Respect & manners • Healthy friendships • My behaviour • Bullying • Stereotypes • Families in the wider world • Loss and change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to RSE • Build a friend • Resolving conflict • Respecting myself • Family life • Bullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to RSE • Respect • Developing respectful relationships • Stereotypes • Bullying • Being me • Loss and change
Safety and the changing body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting lost • Making a call to the emergency services • Asking for help • Appropriate contact • Medication • Safety at home • People who help to keep us safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Internet • Communicating online • Secrets and surprises • Appropriate contact • Road safety • Drug education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic first aid • Communicating safely online • Online safety • Fake emails • Drugs, alcohol & tobacco • Keeping safe out and about 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online restrictions • Share aware • Basic first aid • Privacy and secrecy • Consuming information online • The changing adolescent body (puberty) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online friendships • Identifying online dangers • The changing adolescent body (puberty, including menstruation) • First aid • Drug education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs alcohol & tobacco • First aid • Critical digital consumers • Social media • The changing adolescent body (puberty, conception, birth)
Health and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wonderful me • What am I like? • Ready for bed • Relaxation • Hand washing & personal hygiene • Sun safety • Allergies • People who help us stay healthy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiencing different emotions • Being active • Relaxation • Steps to success • Growth mindset • Healthy diet • Dental health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My healthy diary • Relaxation • Who am I? • My superpowers • Breaking down barriers • Dental health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diet and dental health • Visualisation • Celebrating mistakes • My role • My happiness • Emotions • Mental health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relaxation • The importance of rest • Embracing failure • Going for goals • Taking responsibility for my feelings • Healthy meals • Sun safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can I be? • Mindfulness • Taking responsibility for my health • Resilience toolkit • Immunisation • Health concerns • Creating habits • The effects of technology on health

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Citizenship	<p>Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rules Caring for others: Animals The needs of others <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar, yet different Belonging <p>Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Democratic decisions 	<p>Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rules beyond school Our school environment Our local environment <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job roles in our local community Similar yet different: My local community <p>Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council Giving my opinion 	<p>Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights of the child Rights and responsibilities Recycling <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local community groups Charity <p>Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local democracy Rules 	<p>Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are human rights? Caring for the environment <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community groups Contributing Diverse communities <p>Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local councillors 	<p>Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breaking the law Rights and responsibilities Protecting the planet <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the community Pressure groups <p>Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliament 	<p>Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human rights Food choices and the environment Caring for others <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prejudice and discrimination Valuing diversity <p>Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National democracy
Economic wellbeing	<p>Money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to money Looking after money Banks and building societies Saving and spending <p>Career and aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jobs in school 	<p>Money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where money comes from Needs and wants Wants and needs Looking after money <p>Career and aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jobs 	<p>Money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ways of paying Budgeting How spending affects others Impact of spending <p>Career and aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jobs and careers Gender and careers 	<p>Money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spending choices/ value for money Keeping track of money Looking after money <p>Career and aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influences on career choices Jobs for me 	<p>Money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Borrowing Income and expenditure Risks with money Prioritising spending <p>Career and aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stereotypes in the workplace 	<p>Money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attitudes to money Keeping money safe Gambling <p>Career and aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What jobs are available Career routes
Identity						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is identity? Identity and body image
School transitions	1 lesson	1 lesson	1 lesson	1 lesson	1 lesson	1 lesson

Appendix 2: 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
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

HEALTH EDUCATION EXPECTATIONS	
TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Mental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health • That there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations • How to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings • How to judge whether what they're feeling and how they're behaving is appropriate and proportionate • The benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, voluntary and service-based activity on mental wellbeing and happiness • Simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family, and the benefits of hobbies and interests • Isolation and loneliness can affect children and that it's very important for children to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support • That bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental wellbeing • Where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for seeking support), including whom in school they should speak to if they're worried about their own or someone else's mental wellbeing or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online) • It's common for people to experience mental ill health. For many people who do, the problems can be resolved if the right support is made available, especially if accessed early enough

Internet safety and harms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That for most people the internet is an integral part of life and has many benefits • About the benefits of rationing time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical wellbeing • How to consider the effect of their online actions on others and know how to recognise and display respectful behaviour online and the importance of keeping personal information private • Why social media, some computer games and online gaming, for example, are age restricted • That the internet can also be a negative place where online abuse, trolling, bullying and harassment can take place, which can have a negative impact on mental health • How to be a discerning consumer of information online including understanding that information, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted • Where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online
Physical health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle • The importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise • The risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity) • How and when to seek support including which adults to speak to in school if they're worried about their health
Healthy eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What constitutes a healthy diet (including understanding calories and other nutritional content) • The principles of planning and preparing a range of healthy meals • The characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating (including, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health)
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking
Health and prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss or unexplained changes to the body • About safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer • The importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and that a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn • About dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including regular check-ups at the dentist • About personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they're spread and treated, and the importance of handwashing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination
Basic first aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary • Concepts of basic first aid, for example dealing with common injuries, including head injuries
Changing adolescent bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes • About menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle

Appendix 3: Parent/carer form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS/CARERS – FOR YOUR CHILD'S CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent/carer		Date	
<p>I would like to withdraw my child from the following lesson(s):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Year 4 – Lesson 8 menstrual cycle (Y4 Girls only)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Year 6 – Lesson 6 conception - part 2 of lesson (Y6 children only)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Year 6 – Lesson 7 pregnancy & birth (Y6 children only)</p>			
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/carers	
Signed	
Date	