

# Rickleton Primary School



## Relationships and Sex Education Policy

**Dates of previous revisions: September 2024**  
**Latest revision: September 2025**  
**Approved by Governors: September 2025**  
**To be reviewed: September 2026**

<b>Review Date</b>	<b>Changes made</b>	<b>Ratification Date by Governing Body</b>
<b>Sept 22</b>	<b>Minor name changes made</b>	<b>October 22</b>
<b>Sept 23</b>	<b>Parent drop in added</b>	
<b>Sept 24</b>	<b>No Changes</b>	
<b>Nov 2025</b>	<b>No Change – This will change as the curriculum is reviewed.</b>	

Relationships and Sex Education Policy  
Approved by Governors: September 2024  
To be reviewed: November 2025

### Policy Statement

Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) is a lifelong learning process of acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex, sexuality, relationships and feelings (Sex Education Forum 1999). Effective RSE can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their sexuality, health and well-being. 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 1996 Education Act consolidates all relevant previous legislation and states that all primary schools must provide an up to date policy that describes the content and organisation of RSE provided outside the National Curriculum Science Order. The DfE Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Curriculum Guidance (2020) supports this legislation. From September 2020 Relationships Education and Health education is compulsory in all primary schools. All primary schools should have a Relationship Education and Sex Education programme tailored to the age, physical and emotional maturity of the children. Schools have a legal duty to promote the well-being of their pupils (Education and Inspections Act 2006) and RSE contributes to this duty.

Schools have a legal duty to promote equality (Equality Act 2010) and to combat bullying (Education Act, 2006) (which includes homophobic, sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying) and section 4.2 of the national curriculum (2014) states 'Teachers should take account of their duties under equal opportunities legislation that covers race, disability, sex, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.' and RSE contributes to this duty.

Other related policies and documents include the renewed PSHCE planning document, PSHE & Citizenship policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Drug Education Policy and the Child Protection Policy.

### Aims and Objectives

This policy is a working document which provides guidance and information on all aspects of RSE in the school for staff, parents/carers and governors. To be accessible to all of these groups the document needs to be available on request and presented in a way that is easy to understand.

### Moral and Values Framework

The RSE programme at Rickleton Primary School reflects the school ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values:

- Respect for self;
- Respect for others;
- Responsibility for their own actions;
- Responsibility for their family, friends, schools and wider community.

### Equal Opportunities Statement

The school is committed to the provision of RSE to all of its pupils. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths, gender, sexuality and diverse family backgrounds. Equal time and provision will be allocated for all groups.

### Content

Children at Rickleton Primary should:

- Develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships.
- Be able to name parts of the body and describe how they work.
- Be able to protect themselves and ask for help and support.
- Be prepared for the onset of puberty.

In Key stage 1 pupils learn to recognise different types of relationships; these include difference in families (including same sex families), friends and others. They will identify similarities and differences between themselves and others, question whether boys and girls should behave differently (this includes Trans children), identify and share their feelings with each other, recognise safe and unsafe situations and identify and be able to talk to someone they trust. All staff are trained in procedures for safeguarding and follow guidelines set out in school with regards to reporting concerns to the designated person for Safeguarding – in the

case of RPS the Head teacher and Assistant Head teacher. Children in Key Stage 1 also learn that animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce. They learn to recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans, that humans and animals can produce offspring and that these grow into adults.

In Key stage 2 pupils learn to express their opinions about maintaining positive and healthy relationships (including same sex families) and how to recognise and deal with relationships which are not positive i.e. bullying in all forms, including HBT bullying, and to listen to and support others, including respecting other people's viewpoints and beliefs.

They learn to recognise their own worth, identify positive things about themselves and understand the way in which the media portrays body image. They also learn ways to manage stresses in life in order to promote their own physical and mental health and the wellbeing of others. Life processes are discussed including, the physical and emotional changes that take place at puberty, why they happen and how to manage them. Human reproduction, changing relationships and conception are also discussed.

### Organisation

RSE should not be delivered in isolation but firmly embedded in all curriculum areas, including Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE). At Rickleton Primary School the main content is delivered in PSHCE lessons. RSE is normally delivered by class teachers in mixed gender groups other than when it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups. Active learning methods which involve children's full participation are used. After recommendation from the Local Authority and consultation within school we use the Yasmine and Tom programme.

The Role of Visitors in regards to RSE occasionally, appropriate and suitably experienced and/or knowledgeable visitors from outside school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of RSE in school. Namely our School Nurse who helps with delivery of puberty sessions in Year 5 and 6.

Visitors are invited in to school because of the particular expertise or contribution they are able to make; All visitors are familiar with and understand the school's RSE policy and work within it; All input to PSHCE lessons are part of a planned programme and negotiated and agreed with staff in advance; All visitors are supervised/supported by a member of staff at all times; The input of visitors is monitored and evaluated by staff and pupils. This evaluation informs future planning. Rickleton Primary School believes in the importance of training for staff delivering RSE. Staff are encouraged to access appropriate training and support to help them deliver effective RSE.

Parents are invited into school to view the resources and ask any questions during an informal drop in session.

### Specific Issues within RSE

#### Withdrawal

Parents/Carers **do not** have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Relationships Education and Health Education; this is **statutory as of September 2020**. Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education provided at school except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the Head teacher who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the Sexual Education programme until the

request for withdrawal has been removed. Where parents have chosen to withdraw children from Sexual Education, they will continue to participate in statutory Relationship Education and Health Education.

### Confidentiality

As a general rule a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he talks to the named child protection coordinator who may confer with the Head teacher before any decision is made. The child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process.

### Child Protection

The school has a separate Child Protection Policy. Effective RSE may bring about disclosures of child protection issues and staff should be aware of the procedures for reporting their concerns. Controversial and Sensitive Issues Staff are aware that views around RSE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all RSE issues are taught without bias. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect others that may have different opinions.

### Dealing with Questions

Both formal and informal RSE arising from pupils' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the safeguarding designated leads if they are concerned. A question box and worry monster will be available to children so that they can place their questions in, and a strategy of 'can I come back to you with the answer to that one.' This allows teachers to prepare the correct resources and frame answers to tricky questions in consultation with parents.

### Gender, Sexual Identity and Sexual Orientation

Rickleton Primary School believes that RSE should meet the needs of all pupils regardless of their gender or developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. Homophobic, Biphobic and Transphobic bullying is dealt with strongly yet sensitively. The school will liaise with parents on this issue to reassure them of the content and context. Dissemination RSE policy is shared with all staff through the school intranet and is available from the PSHCE leader on request from parents.

### Assessing and Monitoring

The RSE policy is to be reviewed every 2 years and appropriate amendments to be made where needed. Information from staff, survey results and quantitative data will all feed in to the review of the RSE policy to ensure effectiveness and relevance.