



RSE Policy

Date	Review Date	Coordinator	Nominated Governor
September 2023	September 2025	Jessica Bennion	David Watson

Relationships and health education in primary schools became compulsory in September 2020 as planned; however, due to the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, schools have been offered flexibility on when to begin delivering these subjects within the 2020/2021 academic year.

Schools that are prepared to deliver teaching in these subjects and have assessed that they meet the requirements in the DfE's [‘Relationships education, relationships and sex education \(RSE\) and health education’](#) guidance are encouraged to begin delivering teaching as soon as practically possible, and no later than the start of the Summer term in 2021.. In these cases, a phased approach should be used (if needed) when introducing the subjects.

Barton Clough Primary believes that our children are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. Whilst we understand this presents many positive and exciting opportunities, there are also many risks too. We aim to provide our children and families the skills and knowledge to stay mentally and physically healthy and manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way. RSE is a vehicle that will help promote moral, cultural and physical development of our children and help them to prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

We will deliver the core of our RSE curriculum strand through the No Outsiders Programme.

PSHE at Barton Clough will empower the children to connect with themselves, their families and friends, their community and the rapidly changing wider world.

RSE sits within the subject PSHE. The framework for PSHE is divided into three core strands:

❑ **Time for Me**

❑ **Time to Be**

❑ **Time for us**

Time to Be will empower the children to manage their minds, feelings and emotions. They will learn mindfulness and meditation, how to regulate their emotions and develop a growth mindset.

Time to Be is all about developing healthy habits. This includes understanding the value of exercise and nutrition, the importance of sleep, the impact of the outdoors on their physical and mental health, the benefits of good hygiene, safeguarding and how to be safe online.

Time for Us focusses on families, friendships and relationships and the need to respect others even when they are different from them .

AIMS

We will teach RSE in accordance with our philosophy of child-led teaching and learning which promotes questioning and thinking skills.

We aim 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
- Develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold beliefs that are different to their own.
- Provide children with the skills and knowledge to be safe and happy Online.
- Empower children to manage their own mental health and recognise its importance alongside physical health

STATUTORY INFORMATION

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

We do not 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 which would include the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RSE, we are 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](#).

At Barton Clough Primary we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Our policy has been informed Our PSHE policy is informed by existing DfE guidance:

- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) (statutory guidance)

- Barton Clough Primary
- [Respectful School Communities: Self Review and Signposting Tool](#) (a tool to support a whole school approach that promotes respect and discipline)
- [Behaviour and Discipline in Schools](#) (advice for schools, including advice for appropriate behaviour between pupils)
- [Equality Act 2010 and schools](#)
- [SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years](#) (statutory guidance)
- [Alternative Provision](#) (statutory guidance)
- [Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools](#) (advice for schools)
- [Preventing and Tackling Bullying](#) (advice for schools, including advice on [cyberbullying](#))
- [Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools](#) (advice for schools)
- [The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance](#) (provides advice on avoiding discrimination in a variety of educational contexts)
- [Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools](#) (guidance for maintained schools on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC))

[SMSC requirements for independent schools](#) (guidance for independent schools on how they should support pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development)

Consultation with parents

The school understands the important role parents play in enhancing their children's understanding of relationships and health. Similarly, we also understand how important parents' views are in shaping the curriculum.

The school works closely with parents by establishing open communication – all parents are consulted in the development and delivery of the curriculum.

Parents are provided with the following information:

- The content of the relationship and health curriculum
- The delivery of the relationships and health curriculum, including what is taught in each year group
- The legalities surrounding withdrawing their child from the subjects
- The resources that will be used to support the curriculum
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Parents have been invited into school to discuss what will be taught, address any concerns and help parents in managing conversations with their children on the issues covered by the curriculum. This has included an opportunity to look at the No Outsiders programme and explore the lessons and books used to deliver this element of RSE.

Parents are consulted in the review of the curriculum and this policy, and are encouraged to provide their views at any time.

Parents will be invited (when it is safe to do so) to visit school and see some RSE teaching sessions first hand.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The **governing board** is responsible for:

Ensuring all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes.

- Ensuring the curriculum is well led, effectively managed and well planned.
- Evaluating the quality of provision through regular and effective self-evaluation.
- Ensuring teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND.
- Providing clear information for parents on subject content and their rights to request that their children are withdrawn.
- Making sure the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures the school can fulfil its legal obligations.

The **Head of School** is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring staff are suitably trained to deliver the subjects.
- Ensuring that parents are fully informed of this policy.
- Reviewing requests from parents to withdraw their children from the subjects.
- Discussing requests for withdrawal with parents.
- Organising alternative education for pupils, where necessary, that is appropriate and purposeful.
- Reporting to the governing board on the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing this policy on an **annual** basis.

The **relationships and health education subject leader** is responsible for:

- Overseeing the delivery of the subjects.
- Ensuring the subjects are age-appropriate and high-quality.
- Ensuring teachers are provided with adequate resources to support teaching of the subjects.
- Ensuring the school meets its statutory requirements in relation to the relationships, sex and health curriculum.
- Ensuring the relationships, sex and health curriculum is inclusive and accessible for all pupils.
- Working with other subject leaders to ensure the relationships, sex and health curriculum complements, but does not duplicate, the content covered in the national curriculum.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the subjects and providing reports to the **Head of School**.

The appropriate teachers are responsible for:

- Delivering a high-quality and age-appropriate relationships, sex and health curriculum in line with statutory requirements.
- Using a variety of teaching methods and resources to provide an engaging curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils.
- Ensuring they do not express personal views or beliefs when delivering the programme.
- Modelling positive attitudes to relationships and health education.
- Responding to any safeguarding concerns in line with the **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy**.
- Acting in accordance with planning, monitoring and assessment requirements for the subjects.
- Liaising with the **SENCO** to identify and respond to individual needs of pupils with SEND.
- Working with the **relationships and health education subject leader** to evaluate the quality of provision.

The **SENCO** is responsible for:

- Advising teaching staff how best to identify and support pupils' individual needs.

- Advising staff on the use of TAs in order to meet pupils' individual needs.

OUR CURRICULUM AND RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Relationships and Health Education are statutory at primary and parents **do not** have the right to withdraw their child from the subject.

We will share the images that will be used in class with parents ahead of teaching the sessions in the summer term.

Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Relationships Education curriculum overview; Families

and people who care for me

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That families are important for them 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

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- 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, but 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.
- How to manage conflict.
- How to manage different situations and how to seek help from others if needed.

Respectful relationships

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), make different choices, or have different preferences or beliefs.
- Which 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 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 the different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying to an adult, and how to seek help.
- What a stereotype is, and how they can be unfair, negative or destructive.
- The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults.

Online relationships

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That people sometimes behave differently online, including 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, even when we are anonymous.
- The rules and principles for keeping safe online.
- How to recognise harmful content and contact online, and how to report these.
- How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information.
- The risks associated with people they have never met.
- How information and data is shared and used online.

Being safe

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- 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.
- 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, including online, who 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 and 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 seek advice, for example, from their family, their school and other sources.

Mental Wellbeing

By the end of primary school pupils will know:

- 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 and nervousness.
- The scale of emotions that humans experience in response 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 are feeling and how they are behaving are appropriate and proportionate.
- The benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, and 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.
- How isolation and loneliness can affect children, and that it is very important they seek support and discuss their feelings with an adult.
- 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), extending to who in school they should speak to if they are worried about themselves or others.

- That it is common to experience mental ill health and, for the 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

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- 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.
- 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.
- How to recognise and display respectful behaviour online.
- The importance of keeping personal information private.
- Why some social media, some computer games and online gaming 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, inclusive of 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

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- 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 by 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 are worried about their health.

Healthy eating

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- What constitutes a healthy diet, including an understanding of 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 obesity, and other behaviours, e.g. the impact of alcohol on health.

Drugs alcohol and tobacco

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug- taking.

Health and prevention

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- 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 and viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of hand washing.
- The facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination.

Basic first aid

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- 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 body

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- 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 and key facts relating to the menstrual cycle.

A core element of our RSE curriculum is the No Outsiders programme.

This programme teaches key elements of the RHE curriculum through a series of carefully selected children's books. 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).

Equality and accessibility

The school understands its responsibilities in relation to the Equality Act 2010, specifically that it must not unlawfully discriminate against any pupil because of their protected characteristics. These include:

- Age
- Sex or sexual orientation
- Race
- Disability
- Religion or belief
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy or maternity
- Marriage or civil partnership

The school is committed to making reasonable adjustments wherever possible to promote accessibility and inclusivity of the curriculum.

The school understands that pupils with SEND or other needs, such as those with social, emotional or mental health needs, are entitled to learn about relationships and health education, and the programme will be designed to be inclusive of all pupils.

Teachers will understand that they may need to be more explicit and adapt their planning of work and teaching methods in order to appropriately deliver the programme to pupils with SEND or other needs.

Provisions under the Equality Act 2010 allow our school to take positive action, where it can be evidenced to be proportionate, to respond to particular disadvantages affecting a group because of a protected characteristic. For example, we could consider taking positive action to support girls if there was evidence that they were being disproportionately subjected to sexual violence or sexual harassment.

When deciding whether support is necessary to support pupils with a particular protected characteristic, we will consider our pupils' needs, including the gender and age range of our pupils.

In order to foster healthy and respectful peer-to-peer communication and behaviour between all pupils, the school implements a robust **Behavioural Policy**, as well as a **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy**, which set out expectations of pupils.

The school understands that relationships and health education may include topics which are triggers for teaching staff, and could relate to historic, recent, or current trauma. If this is the case, the school encourages staff to approach their line manager or the **school's designated wellbeing lead** to discuss this.

Assessment, recording, reporting and accountability

The **relationships and health education subject leader** is responsible for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning for the subjects.

The **relationships and health education subject leader** will conduct subject assessments on a **termly** basis, which will include a mixture of the following:

- **Self-evaluations**
- **Lesson observations**
- **Topic feedback forms**
- **Learning walks**
- **Work scrutiny**
- **Lesson planning scrutiny**

The **relationships and health education subject leader** will create **annual** subject reports for the **Head of School** and **governing board** to report on the quality of the subjects.

The **relationships and health education subject leader** will work regularly and consistently with the **Head of School** and **RHE link governor**, e.g. through **monthly** review meetings, to evaluate the effectiveness of the subjects and implement any changes.

This policy will be reviewed on an **annual** basis by the **relationships and health education subject leader** and **Head of School**. The next scheduled review date for this policy is **date**.

This policy will also be reviewed in light of any changes to statutory guidance, feedback from parents, staff or pupils, and issues in the school or local area that may need addressing.

The **governing board** is responsible for approving this policy.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all staff, parents and, where necessary, pupils.

Head of School:	Mr Foster-Carr	Date:	4 th October 2023
Chair of Governing Body:	David Watson	Date:	4 th October 2023