**RELATIONSHIPS**

**&**

**SEX EDUCATION POLICY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Approving Body: | Local Academy Board |
| Date Approved: | March 2020 |
| Review Date: | March 2023 |
| Further information: | Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education’ 2019 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education> |

# Context

The provision for SRE education at The Bolsover School is based upon the ‘Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education’ statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, and teachers published by DofE 2019. The statutory guidance sets out the need for all students to have comprehensive discreet RSE lessons targeted for the appropriate age range. All students will have access to support and information that will enable them to prepare for the complexities of adult life.

This policy will be reviewed in 2021 following the first full year of compulsory RSE. Throughout the year adjustments will be made in line with any guidance from the DfE. This will ensure that The Bolsover School will meet the statutory legislation for the teaching of RSE.

# What is Relationships and Sex Education?

Relationships and Sex Education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. Some aspects are taught in Science, RE, PE, and others are taught as part of Personal Development sessions. It gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline. It also gives a comprehensive programme of RSE and provides accurate information about the complexities of understanding relationships and sexual development as well as aspects of physical and mental wellbeing. A more detailed overview can be found in ‘Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education’ 2019 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

In any school that provides RSE, parents have the right to withdraw their children from some or all of Sex Education delivered as statutory RSE. This up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school will make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.

# Why is Relationships and Sex Education in schools important?

High quality RSE helps create safe school communities in which pupils can grow, learn, and develop positive, healthy behaviour for life.

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.

This is why we (DfE) have made Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools in England and Relationships and Sex Education compulsory in all secondary schools, as well as making Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools. The key decisions on these subjects have been informed by a thorough engagement process, including a public call for evidence that received over 23,000 responses from parents, young people, schools and experts and a public consultation where over 40,000 people contacted the Department for Education.

‘Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education’ 2019 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

Under the new Ofsted Framework, RSE will be inspected in the ‘Quality of Education’ judgement as a core curriculum subject.

# What is high quality Relationships and Sex education?

The Bolsover School expects that Relationships and Sex Education through curriculum lessons and Personal Development sessions:

* + is a partnership between home and school.
  + includes the acquisition of knowledge, the development of life skills and respectful attitudes and values.
  + has sufficient opportunity to cover a wide range of topics, with a strong emphasis on relationships, consent, rights, responsibilities to others, negotiation and communication skills, and accessing services.
  + helps pupils understand on and offline safety, consent, violence and exploitation.
  + is inclusive of difference: gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, culture, age, faith or belief, or other life experience.
  + teaches pupils about the law and their rights to confidentiality even if they are under 16, and is linked to school-based and community health services and organisations.
  + promotes equality in relationships, recognises and challenges gender inequality and reflects girls’ and boys’ different experiences and needs

# How RSE is taught

RSE is taught though specific curriculum time, during Personal Development priority weeks, during tutorial and as part of the wider curriculum. This will include class room based activities with an identified Personal Development tutor, tutorial time and safe space discussion of topics, whilst continuing to be addressed where relevant as part of the core curriculum. These activities will be based in age appropriate groups where needed, however as a school with vertical tutoring there will also be the opportunity to explore topical issues in the day to day tutorial time.

Use of third parties is an ongoing area of development to ensure students have access to a wide range of expertise.