



Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Policy

(Before adopting the policy individual schools will need to amend this exemplar policy in order to relate to the school's commitment to the mandatory status of Relationships and Sexuality Education)

Name of staff member responsible for the RSE policy:	E OWENS
Name of the school's Relationships and Sexuality Education Lead:	E OWENS
Name of Governor with responsibility for RSE:	R BROWN
Date of adoption of the RSE policy by the Governing Body:	SUMMER 2021
Date of next review:	SUMMER 2022

Relationships and sexuality education (Statement from Curriculum for Wales Guidance 2020).

'Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) plays a vital role in enhancing learners' well-being and safety and will be mandatory within the Curriculum for Wales 2022.

Schools have an important role for prevention and protection, discussion and responding to learners' questions and needs. They have the potential to create safe and empowering environments that build upon learners' own formal and informal learning and experiences, offline and online. This enables learners to reflect and express their views and feelings on a range of RSE issues.

Relationships and sexuality education aims to gradually empower learners to build the knowledge, skills and ethical values for understanding how relationships, sex, gender and sexuality shape their own and other people's lives. It seeks to support learners' rights to enjoy equitable, safe, healthy and fulfilling relationships throughout their lives. This includes the ability to recognise, understand and speak out about discrimination and violence and know how and where to seek support, advice and factual information on a range of RSE issues.

Relationships and sexuality education should include developmentally appropriate learning around the following thematic areas.

- **Rights and equity** - Learners should develop an understanding of how rights related to sex, gender, sexuality and relationships contribute to the freedom, equity, dignity, well-being and safety of all people.
- **Relationships** - Learners should develop an understanding of how different types of safe, consensual, healthy and fulfilling relationships can be formed and maintained.
- **Sex, gender and sexuality** - Learners should develop an understanding of sex, gender and sexuality. This includes how biology, society and culture shape our sense of self and relationships with others.

- **Bodies and body image** - Learners should develop an understanding of the human body and how it changes over time, including people's feelings about their bodies, and their sexual and reproductive capacities and functions.
- **Sexual health and well-being** - Learners should develop an understanding of the positive role of sexuality in human life.
- **Violence, safety and support** - Learners should develop an understanding of the social, emotional, physical and legal nature and impact of gender-based and sexual violence, including online. Building learners' confidence to speak out and know how to seek advice and support is integral to RSE.'

Welsh Government, Curriculum for Wales Guidance 2020

Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy

In order to conform with the mandatory status of Relationships and Sexuality Education within the Curriculum for Wales 2022, the school is planning and developing a comprehensive, inclusive teaching and learning programme for Relationships and Sexuality Education.

This policy encompasses the school's approach to RSE. It has been approved by the Senior Management Team through consultation with staff, governors, parents and learners.

The RSE policy links to and is consistent with the school's Equality, Safeguarding and Child Protection policies.

This policy is guided by current Welsh Government regulations, guidance and curriculum:

- Welsh Government Curriculum for Wales guidance 2020.
- Welsh Government White Paper Relationships and Sexuality Education in schools 2019.
- Equality Act (2010).

Curriculum Design

The aim of the school is to provide an inclusive, holistic, rights and gender equity based RSE. The whole school programme is developmentally appropriate, relevant and engaging with clear progression pathways for learning and experience. It is designed to evolve to meet changing biological, social, cultural and technological issues and knowledge. The school's RSE programme has equal status to other Areas of Learning and Experience.

The whole school RSE programme is inclusive and tailored to suit learners' individual needs. It focuses on healthy relationships, appreciating differences and equality.

The planning, teaching, evaluating and monitoring of the school's RSE programme will be undertaken by teachers and the Lead RSE. Learners are given opportunities to comment on the school's RSE policy, lessons and practice. Their views contribute to curriculum planning and evaluating effectiveness.

Occasionally the school's programme may be supported by outside agencies e.g. a Midwife to discuss pregnancy and birth, Stonewall to support gender issues. The teaching staff will be present throughout any lessons delivered by outside agencies.

The school's culture and environment

The school ensures that RSE is embedded in the school's values and moral framework e.g. by showing respect for all learners, staff and the wider community, by inclusion of sexual diversity, celebrating differences and by building healthy relationships.

Teaching RSE

The school will ensure a safe learning environment for teachers, staff and learners by establishing and agreeing to the school's class agreements/rules.

Learners will have opportunities to ask confidential/anonymous questions by using an anonymous question box. All questions will be answered sensitively and in a developmentally appropriate manner for learners.

All resources are carefully selected for their suitability and are reviewed for their effectiveness following their use by teachers and the Lead RSE member of staff.

Staff professional development

The school ensures all teaching and associated members of staff receive appropriate RSE training in order to ensure the whole school RSE programme is effective, developmentally appropriate and meets the needs of learners.

Partnerships with parents/carers and the local community

The school recognises that parents/carers are crucial to the success of the RSE programme. The school therefore provides information about what is delivered and provides opportunities for parents/carers to comment on policy and practice. The RSE policy is available to view on the school's website.

The school provides information to support parents/carers in fulfilling their role as educators about relationships, sex and sexuality at home.

As part of the school's whole school approach to RSE, parent/carers will have opportunities to view the materials and resources used during information sharing sessions when appropriate.

The Whole School RSE programme includes teaching about:

Foundation Phase

1. Friendships What is/are a friend/friends?
2. Personal hygiene.
3. Know the body – name the external parts of the body including the genitals.
4. Personal safety – differentiate between appropriate and inappropriate touching.

Year 3 or 4

1. Different families.
2. Know the body – name the external parts of the body including the genitals -revisit.

3. Personal safety – differentiate between appropriate and inappropriate touching – revisit.

Year 5

1. Understand the size, functions and importance of the main organs of the body including the reproductive organs.
2. Puberty – discuss the physical and emotional changes.
3. Taking responsibility for personal hygiene.

Year 6

1. Conception.
2. Pregnancy.
3. The birth.
4. Caring for the baby.

The school's Relationships and Sexuality Education whole school schemes of work are available below.