

Believe, Achieve, Succeed

Relationships Education Policy (draft)

Responsibility for this policy lies withHeadteacher	
Policy approved date	March 2021
Policy due for review on	March 2025

1. Rationale

Definition:

The following policy refers to Relationships Education at Vicar's Green Primary School

We define Relationships Education as learning about caring friendships, families and people who care for me, respectful relationships, online relationships, being safe, growing up and puberty. Sex Education is also covered in Relationships Education in Year 6, in addition to aspects of sex education being covered in the National Science Curriculum. Sex education is defined in this policy as preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings and the scientific process of how a baby is conceived and born.

Relationships Education provides an excellent forum to provide pupils with life-skills that will enable them to make informed decisions and protect themselves against harmful and exploitative situations. Relationships Education is therefore a tool to safeguard children.

Relationships Education contributes to the foundation of PSHE and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development and offers a valuable vehicle for promoting equality between individuals and groups. It involves an exploration of human and social diversity, and a fostering of self-worth whilst recognising, accepting and respecting differences.

Aspects of Relationships Education are taught as an integral part of the school's PSHE provision throughout the primary school from Reception to Year 6. In this way, children are able to develop their ideas, knowledge and skills gradually and appropriately in a non-threatening environment.

Relationships Education and Ofsted:

The 2019 Ofsted framework states that pupils should be able to recognise online and offline risks to their well-being – for example, risks from criminal and sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, substance misuse, gang activity, radicalisation and extremism – and making them aware of the support available to them. It also states that schools should ensure they are developing pupils' age-appropriate understanding of healthy relationships through appropriate relationship and sex education.

The 2019 Ofsted framework also states:

'From September 2019, schools are able to follow a new relationships and sex education and health education curriculum. From September 2020, they will be required by law to follow it. Primary-age children must be taught about positive relationships and respect for others, and how these are linked to promoting good mental health and well-being. In addition, sex education will become mandatory at secondary level. If a school is failing to meet its obligations, inspectors will consider this when reaching the personal development judgement.

Moral and Values Framework:

The Relationships Education Policy will be sensitive towards the established morals and values framework of all the major world religions and philosophies. In its implementation, it will draw from the practical experiences of those who represent the various religious and philosophical groups within the local community. The Relationships Education Policy will be complimentary with the Religious Education Policy of our school.

2. Statutory requirements

Schools are required to comply with relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010. Further guidance is available for schools in The Equality Act 2010 and school's advice. The DfE guidance states that schools should pay particular attention to the Public sector equality duty (PSED)

Under the provisions of the Equality Act, schools must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership, or sexual orientation (collectively known as the protected characteristics). Schools must also make reasonable adjustments to alleviate disadvantage and be mindful of the SEND Code of Practice when planning for these subjects.

As a maintained primary school, we must provide Relationships Education to all pupils as per section 34 of the Children and Social work act 2017. We are not required to provide sex education, but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum. Our school also delivers sex education in Year 6 as part of Relationships Education. Parents can withdraw from sex education lessons.

In teaching Relationships Education, we must have regard to guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

At Vicar's Green Primary School we teach Relationships Education as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The steps taken to review the policy are as follows.

The Department for Education and Ofsted have clearly outlined aspects of Relationships Education that are statutory in all primary schools, therefore some recommendations or comments made during the consultation process may not be reflected in the final policy as our school has to ensure we are meeting statutory guidelines.

- 1. **Review** members of school staff looked through the existing Relationships Education policy as well as local and national guidance for Relationships Education. The existing Relationships Education policy was then reviewed to reflect any advice and changes at local and national level.
- 2. **Staff consultation** Staff were consulted via a staff meeting where they were asked to review the teaching and delivery of Relationships Education here at Vicar's Green Primary School. This feedback formed part of the review process.
- 3. **Parents –** Two meetings were held in school. The first meeting took the form of a consultation where the proposed changes were shared with the parents; in the second meeting the parents were presented how these changes would look in practice. *Due to the delays related to Covid in implementing the scheme, the school will review the policy with parents again. The draft policy will be placed on the school website for 2 weeks for parents to review and make comments.*
- 4. **Pupil consultation** We consulted with pupil via the 2019 Health Related Behaviour Survey. The results of this survey were then used to inform the policy and inform the delivery of RSE in our

school. A pupil focus group was also held so that pupils could feed into the content of the policy. The policy is available on the school's website.

5. **Ratification** – once amendments are finalised, the policy will be shared with governors and ratified. The policy will be then ratified by the governing body in *March 2020*.

This policy will be reviewed every two years. This policy will next reviewed in December 2022

4. Aim and objectives

The aim of this policy is to enable the effective planning, delivery and assessment of Relationships Education.

Relationship Education in Vicar's Green Primary School has three main elements:

Attitudes and Values

- Learning the importance of values, individual conscience and moral choices;
- Learning the value of family life, stable and loving relationships;
- Learning the value of respect, love and care;
- Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas;
- Developing critical thinking as part of decision-making;
- Challenging myths, misconceptions and false assumptions about normal behaviour

Personal and Social Skills

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others;
- Learning to make choices with an absence of prejudice;
- Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- Managing conflict;
- Empower students with the skills to be able to avoid inappropriate pressures or advances (both as exploited or exploiter)

Knowledge and Understanding

- Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
- Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, emotions and relationships
- Develop positive values and moral frameworks that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour; have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and respect for individual conscience and the skill to judge the kind of relationship they want.
- Understand consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within pastoral relationships
- Communicate effectively by developing appropriate terminology for body and relationship issues
- Develop awareness of their sexuality and understand human sexuality; challenge sexism and prejudice and promote equality and diversity.

• Be aware of sources of help and acquire the skills and confidence to access confidential health advice, support and treatment if necessary

5. Equal Opportunities

Relationships Education contributes to the foundation of PSHE and Citizenship and offers a valuable vehicle for promoting equality between individuals and groups. It involves an exploration of human and social diversity, and a fostering of self-worth whilst recognising, accepting and respecting differences.

The school is committed to the provision of Relationships Education for all of its pupils and the differing needs of boys and girls. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds and meet the needs of all pupils. All staff are expected to give every pupil the chance to experience, participate and achieve the understanding of Relationships Education. Equal time and provision will be allocated for all groups but there may be occasions where children with special educational needs (SEN) are given extra support.

6. Delivery of RE: Content, delivery and training

Content:

Relationships Education is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Our school uses the Ealing PSHE scheme of work to deliver PSHE and Relationships Education. Biological aspects of Relationships Education are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are also included in health education.

The main aspects of Relationships Education are covered in the Summer Term as part of PSHE (See appendix 1) however, many aspects of keeping safe, good and bad touch, healthy friendships, online safety, peer pressure, saying no, the PANTS rule, families and people who care for me are taught throughout the school year to ensure a consistent spiraling approach to keeping safe.

Relationships Education 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
- o Being safe

The above points are covered in an age appropriate way from EYFS to Year 6 (see appendix 1 for more detail). 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).

The changing adolescent body (puberty) is covered in years 4, 5 and 6. It is covered at this age to ensure children are prepared for the emotional and physical changes that will happen during puberty. Puberty is part of the statutory Health Education curriculum.

Sex education is covered in year 6 only. In these lessons the focus will be on preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings and the scientific process of how a baby is conceived and born.

Parents of Year 6 children will be invited to a workshop regarding Sex Education prior to the topic being taught.

Delivery:

Relationships Education will usually be delivered by a member of school staff, usually the child's class teacher. If an external visitor is delivering all or aspects of Relationships Education, parents will be informed.

Relationships Education is usually delivered in mixed gender groups other than when it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups.

Relationships Education will be assessed as part of the wider PSHE curriculum.

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 a different opinion.

Both formal and informal RSE questions arising from pupils are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil(s) 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 Child Protection Lead if they are concerned.

The following are protocols teachers follow for discussion ('Ground Rules')

- No one (teacher or pupil) will have to answer a personal question
- No one will be forced to take part in a discussion
- Only correct/agreed names for body parts will be used
- o Meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way
- o The use of a question box may help to lessen embarrassment of asking questions
- Teachers may use their discretion in responding to questions and may say (for example):
 - The appropriate person to answer that question is your parent
 - The question can be discussed one to one after class
 - The topic will be covered at a later stage in their Relationships Education

The lead teacher for PSHE monitors the implementation of Relationships Education, this monitoring is done through book scrutiny, lesson observations, and pupil conferencing sessions Relationships Education is assessed and evaluated by using the Ealing PSHE scheme of work.

7. Child protection

There may be rare occasions when a teacher is directly approached by a primary aged child who is sexually active, contemplating sexual activity and/or is being sexually abused. With respect to child abuse and protection procedures, staff will follow the school's child protection policy.

Staff will also be referred to the:

DfE's 2020 document on 'Keeping children safe in education'- statutory guidance for schools and colleges <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2</u>

Working together to safeguard children 2018

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2

8. Partnership with Parents

The school views parents as partners in the delivery of Relationships Education. Parents will be informed about the Relationships Education programme at the start of the summer term as part of information provided on what their children will be learning. Curriculum statements are published on the website/

Should parents have any questions regarding Relationship Education they are welcome to approach the school.

Right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from statutory Relationships and Health Education lessons (see outline of Relationships and Health education in appendix 1). Parents also cannot withdraw their children from the statutory National Science Curriculum (see appendix 1)

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education (taught in year 6 only) within Relationships Education. Requests for withdrawal from these lessons should be put in writing and addressed to the headteacher. In the event of a child being withdrawn from a lesson, that child must stay in school and will be assigned to another class until that specific lesson is over.

If you withdraw your child from sex education lessons, the school cannot guarantee that your child will not hear about the content of lessons from other pupils e.g. on the playground, walking home from school. By withdrawing children from sex education lessons, they may seek the information from elsewhere e.g. friends, siblings, and the internet. These sources of information are open incorrect and unreliable and can expose children to information which is not appropriate for their age.

9. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board

The governing board will approve the Relationships Education policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that Relationships Education is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of Relationships Education (see appendix 1).

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering Relationships Education in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to Relationships Education
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils

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

All teaching staff, including cover teachers, will deliver Relationships Education lessons. Ms M Blissett is responsible for leading PSHE and RSE in this school.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in Relationships Education and, when discussing issues related to Relationships Education, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

Signed by.

Headteacher: Date:

Chair of Governors: Date:

APPENDIX 1: Curriculum coverage – science, relationships education and health education

Relationships Education		Sex E	ducation	Scien	ce	Healt	h education		
Statu	atutory		atutory Non st		tatutory	Statu	tory	Statu	tory
-		(year	6 only)		-				
Fami	lies and people who care	0	questions	Key S	stage 1:	Menta	al wellbeing		
for m	e		pertaining to	0	identify,	0	that mental wellbeing is a normal part of		
0	that families are important for		sex or		name, draw		daily life, in the same way as physical		
	children growing up because		sexuality		and label the		health.		
	they can give love, security and		which go		basic parts of	0	that there is a normal range of emotions		
	stability.		beyond what		the human		(e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear,		
0	the characteristics of healthy		is set out for		body and say		surprise, nervousness) and scale of		
	family life, commitment to each		Relationships		which part of		emotions that all humans experience in		
	other, including in times of		Education.		the body is		relation to different experiences and		
	difficulty, protection and care	0	questions		associated		situations		
	for children and other family		pertaining to		with each	0	how to recognise and talk about their		
	members, the importance of		sex or		sense.		emotions, including having a varied		
	spending time together and		sexuality	0	notice that		vocabulary of words to use when talking		
	sharing each other's lives.		which go		animals,		about their own and others' feelings.		
0	that others' families, either in		beyond what		including	0	how to judge whether what they are		
	school or in the wider world,		is set out for		humans, have		feeling and how they are behaving is		
	sometimes look different from		Relationships		offspring		appropriate and proportionate.		
	their family, but that they		Education.		which grow	0	the benefits of physical exercise , time		
	should respect those	0	Sexual		into adults		outdoors, community participation,		
	differences and know that other		reproduction	Key S	stage 2:		voluntary and service-based activity on		
	children's families are also		in humans	0	describe the		mental wellbeing and happiness.		
	characterised by love and care	0	Reproductive		changes as	0	simple self-care techniques, including the		
0	that stable, caring		cycle in		humans		importance of rest, time spent with		
	relationships, which may be of		humans		develop to		friends and family and the benefits of		
	different types, are at the				old age		hobbies and interests.		
	heart of happy families, and			0	recognise	0	isolation and loneliness can affect		
	are important for children's				that living		children and that it is very important for		
	security as they grow up.				things		children to discuss their feelings with an		
0	that marriage represents a				produce		adult and seek support.		
	formal and legally recognised				offspring of				

	commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong.	the same kind, but normally	0	that bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental wellbeing.
0	how to recognise if family relationships are making them	offspring vary and are not	0	where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for
	feel unhappy or unsafe, and	identical to		seeking support), including whom in
	how to seek help or advice from	their parents		school they should speak to if they are
	others if needed.			worried about their own or someone
				else's mental wellbeing or ability to
				control their emotions (including issues
				arising online).
			0	it is 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.
Carin	g friendships	lr	nterr	net safety and harms
0	how important friendships are		0	that for most people the internet is an
	in making us feel happy and			integral part of life and has many
	secure, and how people choose			benefits.
	and make friends.		0	about the benefits of rationing time spent
0	the characteristics of			online, the risks of excessive time spent
	friendships, including mutual			on electronic devices and the impact of
	respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty,			positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical
	kindness, generosity, trust,			wellbeing.
	sharing interests and		0	how to consider the effect of their online
	experiences and support with		č	actions on others and know how to
	problems and difficulties.			recognise and display respectful
0	that healthy friendships are			behaviour online and the importance of
	positive and welcoming			keeping personal information private.
	towards others, and do not		0	why social media, some computer games
	make others feel lonely or			and online gaming, for example, are age
	excluded.			restricted.

0	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	 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.
Deer	needed.	Dhursteal health and fitness
ке s р о о	ectful relationships 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.	 Physical health and fitness 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 are worried about their health.

0	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	
0	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.	
0	what a stereotype is , and how	
	stereotypes can be unfair,	
	negative or destructive.	
0	the importance of permission -	
	seeking and giving in	
	relationships with friends, peers	
	and adults.	
Onlin	e relationships	Healthy eating
0	that people sometimes behave	 what constitutes a healthy diet (including
Ŭ	differently online, including by	understanding calories and other
	pretending to be someone they	nutritional content).
	are not.	 the principles of planning and preparing a
0	that the same principles apply	range of healthy meals.
0	to online relationships as to	 the characteristics of a poor diet and risks
	face-to-face relationships,	associated with unhealthy eating
	including the importance of	(including, for example, obesity and tooth
	respect for others online	decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the
	including when we are	impact of alcohol on diet or health).
	-	impact of alcohol on diet of health).
	anonymous.	

0	the rules and principles for		
	keeping safe online, how to		
	recognise risks, harmful content		
	and contact, and how to report		
	them.		
0	how to critically consider their		
	online friendships and sources		
	of information including		
	awareness of the risks		
	associated with people they		
	have never met.		
0	how information and data is		
	shared and used online.		
Being	safe		Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
0	what sorts of boundaries are		• the facts about legal and illegal harmful
	appropriate in friendships with		substances and associated risks, including
	peers and others (including in a		smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking.
	digital context).		
0	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.		
0	that each person's body		
	belongs to them, and the		
	differences between		
	appropriate and inappropriate		
	or unsafe physical, and other,		
	contact.		
0	how to respond safely and		
-	appropriately to adults they		
	may encounter (in all contexts,		
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 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 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 2: Relationships Education learning objectives (taken from the wider Ealing PSHE scheme of work)

Year group	Learning objectives for Relationships Education lessons
Nursery	 To consider the routines and patterns of a typical day
	 To explain how to keep myself clean and healthy and explain why it
	is important
Descrition	• To identify the people in my family and explain where I can get help
Reception	 To consider the routines and patterns of a typical day To consider the routines and patterns of a typical day
	 To explain how to keep myself clean and healthy and explain why it is important
	$\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{r}}$ (i.e. $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{r}}$) the mean is the set $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{r}}$ and $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{r}}$ is the mean is the in-
Year 1	
	 I o understand how to keep myself clean and healthy and explain why it is important
	 To understand how I have grown and changed since birth
	 To identify the people in my family, while recognising that not all
	families look like mine
	 To explain where I can get help and support.
Year 2	• To explore stereotypes
	 To explain personal boundaries
	 To understand how boys and girls are different and to name boy and
	girl body parts
	 To understand the stages in the human lifecycle
	 To identify the people in my family, while recognizing that not all
	families look like mine
	 To explain where I can get help and support.
Year 3	 To understand how boys and girls are different and to name boy and
	girl body parts
	 To explain personal boundaries
	 To identify the people in my family, while recognizing that not all
	families look like mine
	 To explain where I can get help and support To understand good friendships
Year 4	 To understand good friendships To identify the people in my family, while recognizing that not all
	 I o identify the people in my family, while recognizing that not all families look like mine
	 To explain where I can get help and support
	 To understand good friendships
Year 5	 To understand basic facts about puberty (Y4 lesson 3)
	 To begin to understand menstruation (Y4 lesson 3)
	 To explore the emotional and physical changes that occur during
	puberty
	 To understand male and female puberty changes
	 To explore the impact of puberty on the body and the importance of
	physical hygiene
	 To explore ways to get support during puberty
	 To understand what makes a family and who to turn to for help and
No. and O	support
Year 6	• To recap the male and female changes that happen during puberty
	 To understand what makes a family and who to turn to for help and support
	 support To explore positive and negative ways of communicating in
	 relationships To understand healthy relationships
	 I o understand healthy relationships The understand the human reproductive system (parents can
	withdraw children from this lesson. See section 8)

APPENDIX 3: Relationships Education vocabulary

Below is a list of vocabulary from Relationships Education lessons. Vocabulary from each year group is carried forward to the next year group (e.g. year 3 vocabulary will be revisited in year 4).

Year group	Vocabulary
Nursery	 Routine
	 ○ Clean
	 Healthy
	 ○ Washing
	 Family
	∘ Help
	 Support
Reception	 Routine
-	 ○ Clean
	 Healthy
	 Washing
	 Family
	o Help
	 Support
Year 1	 ○ Clean
	o Hygiene
	 Healthy
	 Family
	o Grown
	 Changed
Year 2	 Different
	 Similar
	o Penis
	o Vagina
	 Stereotype
	 Private
	 Boundaries
	o Girl
	o Boy
	○ Male
	o Female
	o Baby
	o Adult
	 Toddler
	o Child
	o Elder
Year 3	 Differences
	 Personal space
	 Personal boundaries

	- Cood friendehing
	 Good friendships
	• Peer pressure
	 Unhealthy friendships
Year 4	• Differences
	 Personal space
	 Personal boundaries
	 Good friendships
	 Peer pressure
	 Unhealthy friendships
Year 5	 Body change
	 Puberty
	 Testicles
	 Nipple
	 Pubic hair
	 Breast
	 Menstruation
	○ Period
	 Fallopian tube
	∘ Womb
	o Egg
	 Sanitary products
	 Physical changes
	 Emotional changes
	 Body changes
	 Voice deepens
	 Body hair
Year 6	 ○ Relationship
	 Positive and negative relationship
	 Personal information
	 Communication
	○ Wet dream
	 Erection
	Sexual intercourse lesson (parents can withdraw from this
	lesson:
	 Sexual intercourse
	 Sperm
	o Egg
	○ Fertilized
	 Embryo
	 embedded
	 Pregnancy
	• Birth