

Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

Agreed by SLT Ratified by Governors Next Review July 2022 September 2022 September 2024

This policy is applicable to both School and REP

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1. Context

This policy covers our school's approach to Relationships, Sex and Health Education, and has been written in consultation with staff, governors, pupils and parents.

The approach outlined in this policy enables pupils to learn and develop essential skills for adult life, and is in keeping with the school's values and ethos. RSHE forms part of, and is delivered through, the wider PSHCE and Science curriculum.

We believe that Relationships, Sex and Health Education are important to our pupils because:

- It enables our pupils to have the knowledge and skills to lead happy, healthy and safe lives, making informed decisions that are appropriate for the individual.
- The curriculum promotes a positive sense of self, mental health and wellbeing regardless of age, sex, religion, race, ethnicity, culture and disability.
- The policy enables the pupils to transfer scientific knowledge and apply it to their health and relationships, whilst promoting self-advocacy.

The aims of relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) at our school are to:

- Safeguard pupils by giving them an understanding of appropriate body boundaries and the law
 around consent for positive and appropriate relationships. This aspect of the policy and the
 curriculum will adhere to the school's safeguarding policy.
- Provide a framework of knowledge and skills 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
- To ensure pupils are able to understand what is meant by "sexual harassment" and recognise associated behaviours and language
- · Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- · Create a positive culture around issues of health, sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Support pupils to understand themselves and their emotions to become equipped to manage the changing world

2. Statutory requirements

As a maintained school including primary and secondary aged pupils, we must provide relationships education to all primary pupils in recognition of section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

However, we are not required to provide sex education to primary pupils but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RSHE in the primary curriculum, we must have regard to <u>guidance</u> issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the <u>Education Act 1996</u>.

We must provide RSHE to all secondary aged pupils as per the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

Whilst teaching RSHE, we must have regard to to <u>guidance</u> issued by the Secretary of State as outlined in section 403 of the <u>Education Act 1996</u>.

3. Policy development

This policy was developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents.

The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

- 1. Review a member of staff and working group pulled together all relevant information including national and local guidance
- 2. Staff consultation all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
- 3. Parent/stakeholder consultation parents and any other interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy and make their views known
- 4. Pupil consultation we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSHE curriculum
- 5. Research this included statutory government guidance (<u>DfE Sex Education, Relationship and Health Education Policy</u>, information provided by The Key and Herts for Learning (HfL). Consideration was also given to Lonsdale's existing policies.¹
- 6. After consideration of the views from all stakeholders
 - a. A draft policy was developed using The Key RSHE model policy format
 - b. Shared with SLT
 - c. Shared with Governors
- 7. Policy ratification

4. Definition

- RSHE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about reproduction, relationships, healthy lifestyles, sexual health, sexuality, diversity and personal identity.
- RSHE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.
- RSHE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

EYFS & Primary

We will continue to teach the facts of human conception in our upper KS2 curriculum where appropriate. Further 'Sex Education' is not delivered in relationships education. However, we do provide a context for complementing the factual approach in Science to enable pupils to explore and manage their feelings about their Science learning. Pupils will also learn about body boundaries and consent with regard to daily interactions such as personal space and personal care.

¹ Policies include - Safeguarding, Child Protection, Well-Being, On-line Safety. All to be found in the network staff shared area.

Secondary & Post-16

Pupils are taught about human conception and sexual intercourse in Science. In RSHE, we will explore the positive aspects of healthy relationships including mutual respect, consent, loyalty and trust. Pupils will also be taught about the risks arising from casual sexualised remarks, sexual pressure, inappropriate relationships, resisting peer and partner pressure and the impact of all forms of media including social media and the internet. These will include reference to real data and the law. Aspects of maintaining health and what constitutes safe sex will also be delivered. None of this is defined as 'sex education'. We define 'sex education' as content from the DfE guidance in the section 'Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health' (see Appendix 2, page 15) that is not covered within the Science curriculum.

5. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as shown in Appendix 1; topics will be selected and differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of pupils. Our curriculum is fully inclusive of LGBT+ in addition to learning about our wider cultural diversity and disabilities. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and do not seek answers online.

6. Delivery of RSHE

RSHE is taught within the personal, social, health, citizenship and economic (PSHCE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSHE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

During the primary phase, 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
- Being safe

During the secondary phase, RSHE focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds including:

- Families
- Respectful relationships, including friendships
- Online and media
- · Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

For more information about our RSHE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life. We will take care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances. Families can include, for example, single parents; LGBT parents; families headed by grandparents; adoptive parents; foster parents/carers². Teachers will also need to reflect sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example, looked after children or young carers).

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The Governing Board

The Governing Board, bi-annually, are to ratify the RSHE policy having scrutinised a draft version.

7.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for the consistent teaching of RSHE across the school, and for determining requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of RSHE (see section 8).

7.3 Teaching Staff

Teaching staff are responsible for-

- Delivering RSHE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSHE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the nonstatutory components of RSHE

Teaching staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSHE. Those who may have concerns about teaching RSHE are encouraged to discuss this with their line manager.

Within Lonsdale School, all teachers are responsible for the planning and delivery of PSHCE including RSHE. Where possible, RSHE will be taught by the class teacher/ form tutor.

7.4 Pupils

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

² The list is not definitive

8. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships or health education; statutory guidance states that pupils can only be withdrawn from content that covers Intimate and sexual relationships.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3a of this policy and addressed to the form tutor. There is a process that parents must follow should they wish to withdraw their child/ young person from any content delivered within 'Intimate and Sexual Relationships.' This process is clearly outlined in Appendix 3.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the 'Intimate and Sexual Relationships' components of sex education within RSHE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this. This will be discussed with families in line with the withdrawal process outlined in Appendix 3b.

9. Training/Staff Development

The provision of a scheme of work and appropriate resources to support the subject content will be provided to support teaching staff with RSHE delivery.

Staff training, when appropriate, will form part of the Lonsdale continuing professional development calendar.

PSHCE leads will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSHE.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSHE is monitored and supported by –

James Whitehead (PSHCE lead), Sinead North (PSHCE lead) and Claudia Thiele (Deputy Head & Curriculum Lead)

Strategies include-

- Peer-to-peer collaborative teaching
- Learning walks
- Lesson observations
- Assessment for Learning
- Annual parent, pupil and staff questionnaires

Pupils' development in RSHE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

The policy will be reviewed bi-annually by PSHCE leads, SLT and the Governing Body in consultation with parents, pupils and staff.

Appendix 1: Curriculum map Science Relationships, Sex and Health Education Curriculum map Upper KS2: Facts of human conception Secondary and Post-16: Human Puberty/ conception and sexual intercourse **RSHE Curriculum Overview** adolescence Scientific vocabulary for **EYFS & Primary** EYFS & Primary: male and female We will continue to teach the facts of human conception Teaching is in our upper KS2 curriculum where appropriate. Further Families, including anatomy. 'Sex Education' is not delivered in relationships inclusive education. However, we do provide a context for same sex parents complementing the factual approach in Science to Health of LGBT enable pupils to explore and manage their feelings Relationships about their Science learning. Pupils will also learn about Education body boundaries and consent with regard to daily **Education** interactions such as personal space and personal care. Secondary & Post-16 EYFS & Primary: KS2: Body Mental health &

Secondary & Post-

16: Law on consent

Boundaries

Pupils are taught about human conception and sexual intercourse in Science. In RSHE we will explore the positive aspects of healthy relationships including mutual respect, consent, loyalty and trust. Pupils will also be taught about the risks arising from casual sexualised remarks, sexual pressure, inappropriate relationships, resisting peer and partner pressure and the impact of all forms of media including social media and the internet. These will include reference to real data and the law. Aspects of maintaining health and what constitutes safe sex will also be delivered. None of this is defined as 'sex education'. We define 'sex education' as content from the DfE guidance in the section 'Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health' (see Appendix 2, page 15) that is not covered within the Science curriculum.

Healthy 16: Mental health and wellbeing relationships Online safety

Secondary & Post-16: Preventing STIs Contraception

Topics will be selected and differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils.

wellbeing

Online safety

Secondary & Post-

Appendix 2: Curriculum Content

By the end of primary school, pupils should know:

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families and people who care about me	 That families are important for children 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	 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, 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 needed

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Respectful 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 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 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 What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults
Online relationships	 That people sometimes behave differently online, including by 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 including when we are anonymous The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met How information and data is shared and used online

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Being safe	 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; including that it is not 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 (in all contexts, including online) whom 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 or 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 get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Mental wellbeing	 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, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation 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're feeling and how they're behaving is appropriate and proportionate The benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, 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 Isolation and loneliness can affect children and that it's very important for children to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support 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), including whom in school they should speak to if they're worried about their own or someone else's mental wellbeing or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online) 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

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Internet safety and harms	 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 and 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 and know how to recognise and display respectful behaviour online and the importance of keeping personal information private Why social media, some computer games and online gaming, for example, 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, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted Where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online
Healthy eating	 What constitutes a healthy diet (including understanding 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, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health)
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco	The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, vaping, alcohol use and drug-taking
Health and prevention	 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, viruses, how they're spread and treated, and the importance of handwashing The facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Basic first aid	 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 bodies	 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: Curriculum Content

By the end of secondary school, pupils should know:

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families	That there are different types of committed, stable relationships
	How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children
	What marriage is, including their legal status e.g. that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony
	Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into
	The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships
	The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting
	 How to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend, intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others' relationships); and, how to seek help or advice, including reporting concerns about others, if needed
Respectful relationships, including	The characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship
friendships	Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships
	How stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice)
	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 people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs
	About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help
	That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control
	What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable
	The legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Online and media	Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online
	About online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online
	Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them
	What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online
	The impact of viewing harmful content
	That specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners
	That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail
	How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online
Being safe	The concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships
	How people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online)

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Intimate and sexual	How to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship
relationships, including sexual health	That all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g. physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing
nealth	The facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women
	That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others
	That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex
	The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available
	The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage
	That there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help)
	How the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing
	About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment
	How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour
	How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment
Mental wellbeing	How to talk about their emotions accurately and sensitively, using appropriate vocabulary
	That happiness is linked to being connected to others
	How to recognise the early signs of mental wellbeing concerns
	Common types of mental ill health (e.g. anxiety and depression)
	How to critically evaluate when something they do or are involved in has a positive or negative effect on their own or others' mental health
	The benefits and importance of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation and voluntary and service-based activities on mental wellbeing and happiness

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Internet safety and harms	 The similarities and differences between the online world and the physical world, including: the impact of unhealthy or obsessive comparison with others online (including through setting unrealistic expectations for body image or how people may curate a specific image of their life online); over-reliance on online relationships including social media; the risks related to online gambling including the accumulation of debt; how advertising and information is targeted at them; and how to be a discerning consumer of information online How to identify harmful behaviours online (including bullying, abuse or harassment) and how to report, or find support, if they have been affected by those behaviours
Physical health and fitness	 The positive associations between physical activity and promotion of mental wellbeing, including as an approach to combat stress The characteristics and evidence of what constitutes a healthy lifestyle and maintaining a healthy weight (including the links between an inactive lifestyle and ill health, such as cancer and cardio-vascular ill health) About the science relating to blood, organ and stem cell donation
Healthy eating	How to maintain healthy eating and the links between a poor diet and health risks, including tooth decay and cancer
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco	 The facts about legal and illegal drugs and their associated risks, including the link to serious mental health conditions The law relating to the supply and possession of illegal substances The physical and psychological risks associated with alcohol consumption and what constitutes low risk alcohol consumption in adulthood The physical and psychological consequences of addiction, including alcohol dependency Awareness of the dangers of drugs which are prescribed but still present serious health risks The facts about the harms from smoking tobacco and vaping (particularly the risk to lung cancer), the benefits of quitting and how to access support to do so

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Health and prevention	About personal hygiene, germs (including bacteria and viruses), how they are spread, treatment and prevention of infection, and about antibiotics
	About dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including healthy eating and regular check-ups at the dentist
	In late secondary, the benefits of regular self-examination and screening
	The facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination
	The importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and how a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn
Basic first aid	Basic treatment for common injuries
	Life-saving skills, including how to administer CPR (best taught after 12 years old)
	The purpose of defibrillators and when one might be needed
Changing	Key facts about puberty, the changing adolescent body and menstrual wellbeing
adolescent bodies	The main changes which take place in males and females, and the implications for emotional and physical health

Appendix 3a: Parent form: Withdrawal from Sex Education within RSHE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS				
Name of child		Class		
Name of parent		Date		
Name of parent		Date		
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships, sex and health education				
Any other information you would like the school to consider				
Doront signature				
Parent signature				
TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL				
Agreed actions				
from discussion				
with parents				
PSHCE Lead		Date		
signature		Date		
3.3				
Headteacher		Date		
signature				

Appendix 3b: Withdrawal Request Process

