



Stroud Valley Community Primary School –

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

We believe that all pupils should benefit from high quality Relationships and Sex Education, providing them with a safe and supportive environment in which to develop the knowledge they need to make wise and informed choices later in life.

We believe all children have an entitlement to RSE education and carefully consider their needs in terms of their understanding, sexual orientation and cultural background. We value different backgrounds and beliefs and aim to promote tolerance and understanding.

Learning about sex and relationships can provide the ideal forum to challenge stereotyping and views such as those around homophobia and gender sexual stereotyping.

Relationships and sex education is lifelong learning about the:

- physical
- moral
- emotional
- social
- cultural

development of children.

It is about understanding the importance of loving and caring relationships.

It involves learning about relationships, healthy life styles, diversity, personal identity, sexual health and sexuality.

It is about teaching children to develop comfortable personal boundaries and knowledge of the adults they can talk to if they feel those boundaries have been breached.

We aim to:

- provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- answer questions factually and encourage discussion as appropriate;
- help children develop feelings of self-respect, and respect for others
- encourage children to have respect for all relationships
- develop skills (language, decision making, assertiveness, and empathy) to make the most of their lives
- teach children the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- provide children with the factual information and knowledge that will enable them to make informed choices about their lives
- create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- encourage responsibility for themselves.
- prepare children for puberty

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- give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- develop the notion of consensual relationships

How we teach RSE

Relationship and sex education is taught through our PSHE curriculum and we follow a series of lessons planned by Gloucestershire's Healthy Living and Learning Department.

During Y6 we additionally use a series of short videos from the Living and Growing Series to start open ended discussions about sex and relationships. All parents will be given the opportunity to watch the clips before we use them with the children.

The science curriculum involves learning about life processes including reproduction and the main stages of the human life cycle. Programmes of study from the science national curriculum are detailed on the RSE curriculum coverage document included with this policy.

Both sexes are treated equally and RSE is taught in mixed sex groups. It is important that both sexes learn to understand the similarities and differences between the sexes if they are to develop healthy relationships.

RSE is taught in a safe, non-judgmental environment where adults and children feel confident they will be respected.

Children will be taught and supported with developing the following skills:

- communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- to maintain and develop a sense of safe, personal boundaries
- recognising and assessing potential risks
- assertiveness
- seeking help and support when required
- informed decision making
- self-respect and empathy for other
- recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- managing conflict

Parental Consent

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of RSE.

These are the additional learning points that are not part of the science curriculum. There is an overlap, such as learning the names of the body parts, and as this is stated in the National Curriculum will be taught.

If a parent feels they would like to understand more about the content of the non-statutory elements of RSE whilst deciding whether to withdraw their children from RSE please contact the school to arrange a meeting.

Through our termly curriculum coverage information parents will be informed about aspects of the relationships and sex education that is not included in the science curriculum.

If a parent feels this request is appropriate we ask they discuss their decision with the class teacher. If after further explanation about the content of the RSE curriculum we ask that the parent put their decision to withdraw in writing.

Safeguarding

One outcome of our RSE work is that children are enabled to protect themselves and ask for help if necessary. We want them to understand what constitutes a safe and unsafe situation including actions to take if they feel unsafe at any time.

RSE is taught in an open, non-threatening way and we encourage children to talk.

We recognise that discussing relationships and sex with children may infringe on their experiences outside of school and may be a time when children disclose information. All staff are fully aware of our safeguarding procedures and will follow these if appropriate. Children must feel enabled to talk about concerns of inappropriate sexual behaviour or anything they feel uncomfortable about.

It will be made clear to children that they are able to talk to an adult in school at a separate time if they need to.

Monitoring and Evaluation

RSE is one part of our PSHE curriculum and will be monitored by the PSHE middle leader.

Policy Review

Policy Title	Sex and Relationships
Date Policy Ratified by Governors	July 2019
Committee Responsible	Behaviour and Safety
Date for next review	July 2021