



PSHE and RSE Policy

Aims

At Stockton Primary School, we believe that PSHE helps to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives, in order to become informed, active and responsible citizens. The work we do in PSHE links directly to the 'Dimensions' 3D scheme of work. PSHE also flows through all other curriculum areas. Under the new guidance issued by the DfE, by September 2020, Relationships Education at primary school will be compulsory. We believe that, to be effective, RSE should always be taught within a broader PSHE education programme. RSE enhances and is enhanced by learning related to topics including anti-bullying; keeping safe on and off line; keeping physically and mentally healthy, learning about drugs, alcohol and tobacco; and the development of skills and attributes such as communication skills, managing peer pressure, risk management, resilience and decision making.

We seek to:

- Promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils
- Prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life
- Encourage pupils to value themselves and others
- Allow pupils to acknowledge and appreciate difference and diversity
- Teach pupils how to make informed choices
- Prepare pupils to be positive and active members of a democratic society
- Teach pupils to understand what constitutes a safe and healthy lifestyle
- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Promote safety in forming and maintaining relationships
- Provide pupils with a toolkit for understanding and managing their emotions
- Provide pupils with the opportunities to consider issues which may affect their own lives and/or the lives of others
- Help pupils to identify the characteristics of healthy relationships, how relationships may affect mental and physical health; and how to stay safe online
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

The Department for Education introduced compulsory Relationships Education for primary pupils and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) for secondary pupils from September 2020. Also, from September 2020 it is compulsory for all schools to teach Health Education. Through these subjects, we want to support all young people to be happy, healthy and safe – we want to equip them for adult life and to make a positive contribution to society.

Definition

RSE is part of lifelong learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. RSE, within PSHE, aims to give children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitive relationships and the skills to stay safe both on and off line. It enables pupils to explore their own and other's attitudes and values and builds their self-esteem and confidence to view their own sexuality positively.

Delivery and Curriculum

Delivery of PSHE and RSE is done mainly within the PSHE curriculum. Some biological aspects of sex education are taught within the science curriculum. At Stockton, we have adopted the 'Dimensions' scheme of work which comprehensively covers all statutory aspects of PSHE., including healthy lifestyles, food and nutrition, understanding emotions, aspects of relationships such as understanding others, working together, self-worth, managing conflict, changes to the body and healthy relationships.

Fundamental British Values, also referred to as Global Virtues, are an integral part of our ethos. Throughout our work across the curriculum we seek to promote the principles of: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith. These important aspects are celebrated in many ways throughout the year e.g. Global Virtues Week, celebrating a variety of festivals such as Diwali, Black History Month, democratic elections of head students and visits to places of interest such as Coventry Cathedral.

Assessment

Assessment points are built into the end of each unit of work. The vast majority of assessment is done through teacher observation during lessons, however pupils also have the opportunity to self-assess, this is done through discussion and reflection on what has been learnt.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The subject is monitored by the headteacher and subject leader (Miss Natalie Baillie). This is done through lesson observations, discussions with pupils, work scrutiny and scrutiny of plans and adaptations to our core scheme of work (Dimensions). The quality of this curriculum area is evaluated as monitoring develops and adaptations are made to ensure the best quality possible.

Sensitive Issues

All aspects of the curriculum are taught without bias. The Dimensions scheme of work presents information factually. Staff and pupils understand that opinions will vary with regard to a number of areas studied within this subject and personal opinion is valued and respected. Children will be taught a variety of viewpoints from which they can draw their own conclusions and develop their own opinions.

Formal and informal questions with regard to RSHE are answered in an age appropriate way and appropriate to the pupil's level of maturity. Direct questions which occur in lessons can be answered at a later time in a less open forum. If a member of staff has any concerns regarding questions raised by pupils they will contact the DSL for support. The DSL (Mrs Bedgood) will deal with any serious concerns through the appropriate channels.

Right to Withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from sex education within RSE (other than sex education in the National Curriculum as part of science). There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at primary or secondary as we believe the contents of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from the sex education elements of RSE, they should discuss this with the headteacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. This part of the curriculum is taught in the summer term to Years 5 and 6. Information about the contents of the units is relayed to parents well in advance of delivery.

Review December 2026