Wrawby St Mary's CE Primary School



Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education Policy (PSHE)
Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy (RSE)

Reviewed August: 2026

Ratified by Governors 8th October after parental consultation and feedback

Relationships, Sex and Health Education

Policy Guidance

This policy refers to:

- **the *Department for Education Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education statutory guidance (2025) effective 1 September 2026.***
- *the 2010 Equality Act – the characteristics that are protected:*
  - *age*
  - *disability*
  - *gender reassignment*
  - *marriage or civil partnership (in employment only)*
  - *pregnancy and maternity*
  - *race*
  - *religion or belief*
  - *sex*
  - *sexual orientation*

Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.

*This is why we have made **Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools in England** and Relationships and Sex Education compulsory in all secondary schools, as well as making Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools. The key decisions on these subjects have been informed by a thorough engagement process, including a public call for evidence that received over 23,000 responses from parents, young people, schools and experts and a public consultation where over 40,000 people contacted the Department for Education* – (message from secretary of state)

The regulations also set out the rights of parents/carers to withdraw pupils from Sex Education <u>but not from Relationships or Health Education</u>.

The DfE statutory guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education can be found at:
Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education - GOV.UK

Wrawby St Mary's Church of England Primary School

At Wrawby St Mary's Primary School, we strive for a full life in mind, body, heart and spirit to plan, prosper and give hope and a future to all. We believe in a journey of education enabling every child to feel love, challenge and excitement as they access skills to build future pioneers and leaders. Our school is a beacon of hope and a sign of the kingdom.

Our values as a caring Christian community are built on compassion, trust and friendship in partnership with our Trust ethos of excellence, exploration and encouragement powered by equity. Our work and vision are based on the core values stated above alongside the additional values of love, peace, kindness, forgiveness, perseverance and self-control. These values clearly state our firm belief in God overarched by the universal value of hope and our school ethos, all of which is encapsulated in our full curriculum offer, centred around pioneers and leaders.

<u>Relationships Education -</u> is learning about how to:

- be appreciative of existing relationships
- to form new healthy relationships
- to enjoy strong positive, non-exploitative, caring relationships online and in person.

This will particularly reference family relationships including marriage, friendships and relationships with peers and adults.
In this school, any content that might be regarded as Sex Education: learning about human body parts, growth, puberty and reproduction will be taught through the Science Curriculum. Parents do not have the right the excuse their children from this aspect of the curriculum.
Teaching will also include communication skills, assertiveness, boundaries, bereavement awareness and personal safety including road, rail and water safety.

Delivery of RE & RSE
Our school works with BigTalk Education Relationship and Sex Education Specialists: BigTalk Education.
Big Talk is an award-winning team of specialist RSE facilitators led by Lynnette Smith, who is the Chair of the Sex Education Forum's Advisory Group (the SEF is part of the National Children's Bureau). BigTalk Education's *Growing Up Safe: Whole School Approach* (GUS programme) has been recognised by the Family Planning Association and Children and Young People Now Awards as a Finalist in their Safeguarding Award.
The BigTalk team then deliver to each class within school, for more details please see details appendix 1.
Our teaching staff observe the BigTalk Education RE and RSE lessons as part of their CPD programme to ensure they can reinforce the lesson content and answer any follow up questions throughout the academic year. In addition, many of these units will be included in assemblies, circle time, PSHE lessons and science lessons.

Parental/Carer Engagement
As part of the GUS programme, the team from BigTalk Education host an annual consultation meeting with parents/carers and staff to share the resources that will be used with the children. Within this setting parents and carers are given support to help them talk with their children about such topics as keeping safe, puberty, reproduction etc. The parents and carers are also provided with additional information leaflets. This meeting may be attended by governors as well as staff working within the school.
Pupils will be encouraged to speak to their parents/carers about what they have learnt and to continue the learning at home. Parents/carers will be informed of this at the consultation session and be asked to speak to their children about their family values and beliefs.

Parental Right to Withdraw from Sex Education – Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-science elements of Sex Education within RSHE. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing to the Headteacher. We will invite you to talk through your concerns, review the materials we use and explain our rationale. Withdrawing your child from Sex Education remains a statutory right as a parent or legal guardian.
Parents/guardians do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education. Elements of Sex Education are included in the Primary Science Curriculum and parents/guardians do not have the right to withdraw their children from the Science Curriculum.

Causes for Concern and Disclosures
All BigTalk Education staff have up to date enhanced DBS checks. BigTalk Education have a statutory duty to report any causes for concerns or disclosures received from children in school. These will be fed back immediately to staff in school face to face and followed up in writing to school detailing the action taken on the day. If a child was ever to accuse or implicate a member of school staff, then BigTalk would liaise directly with the local duty social worker.
Where a teacher suspects that a child or young person is a victim of or at risk from abuse, they are required to follow the school's safeguarding policy and immediately inform the designated member of staff responsible.
Our school Designed Safeguarding Lead is Mr Brown (Headteacher) Deputy DSLs are Mrs Wormald and Miss Balderson.

Statutory Requirements
At Wrawby St Mary's Church of England Primary School, we teach RSHE as set out in this policy.
As a primary church academy, we must provide Relationships Education to all pupils as per section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. We do not have to follow the National Curriculum, but we are required to offer all pupils a curriculum that is similar in breadth and depth to the National Curriculum, including

requirements to teach science, which would include the elements of sex education contained within the Primary Science curriculum.

RSHE Curriculum

The RSHE curriculum has been planned in the context of our broader curriculum intent, and the delivery of this part of the curriculum is one of the ways in which we seek to realise our overarching distinctively Christian vision. It reflects core Christian teachings about human beings and healthy relationships, including the belief that all are made in the image of God, are loved by God and are therefore to be treated with dignity and respect. This enables our pupils to understand that they should value the gift of themselves and recognise and respect this gift of uniqueness in others by seeking out healthy relationships. It will also help them understand a range of Christian views on the importance of long-term relationships as building blocks for family stability. Biological aspects of RSHE are taught within the Primary Science Curriculum and some elements of RSE may be taught within the RE curriculum, particular with relation to a range of views on relationships from religions and worldviews. **Teaching will also include online wellbeing, privacy, online financial harms, digital consent and awareness of AI-generated content. Use of correct anatomical terminology, including genitalia, taught in an age-appropriate way.** Teaching is delivered by class teachers; some elements of RSHE education are delivered by a trained health professional (BigTalk). The school uses a range of resources to deliver effective RSHE and all staff involved in delivering RSHE receive appropriate training and support.

All RSHE is delivered with an understanding that pupils and staff may be personally engaged in different structures of support and familial relationships, including single parent families, LGBTQ+ families, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers, young carers, etc. The RSHE curriculum has been carefully designed to address the nine protected characteristics as outlined in the 2010 Equality Act.

Our RSHE curriculum has been developed in consultation with various stakeholders, including governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers and takes into account the context of the school and its pupils.

School Roles Relating to RSE

Governors are responsible for;

- Establishing the RSE Policy, in consultation with teachers and parents.
- Ensuring this policy s made available to parents.
- Ensure this policy is in line with other school policies e.g. SEN, Safeguarding etc.
- Ensure that parents know the statutory parts of the curriculum and which parts they have the right of withdrawal from.
- Establish a link governor to share in the monitoring and evaluation of the programme.
- Ensure that the policy provides proper and adequate coverage of the relevant National Curriculum science topics and the setting of RSE within PSHE.

The Headteacher

The Headteacher takes overall delegated responsibility for the implementation of this policy and for liaison with the Governing Body, parents, appropriate agencies, LAAT etc

PSHE/RSE Coordinator

The coordinator along with the Headteacher, has general responsibility for supporting other members of staff in the implementation of this policy and will provide a lead in the dissemination of the information relating to RSE. The leader will monitor that RSE is being taught as outlined in this policy, that parents/carers are informed prior to the lessons and that staff will assess the understanding and learning shown by the pupils.

Monitoring and Evaluation Procedure - using a range of evidence

The PHSE lead will monitor RSE following the delivery of the sessions in each year group. This is usually in the spring term but will be taught when it best fits the cohort in terms of topic being studied or if the need arises at another point of the year for whatever reason.

Assessment
Staff will assess the understanding shown by the pupils through discussion and work produced in light of the teaching. Further questions will be followed up sensitively and if appropriate.

Dissemination of policy

- This policy is to give information and guidance to staff, pupils and parents/carers.
- This policy is available on the school website; parents/carers may ask to see a paper copy.

Supporting documents – DFE – Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school: a guide for parents

Understanding Relationships and Health Education - a guide for primary school parents

Date of review: Annual review against September 2026 statutory requirements