



## Relationships and Sex Education Policy

This policy is underpinned by the commitment of Discovery Schools Academy Trust to ensure the entitlement for all pupils to be taught the statutory relationships and sex curriculum and to maintain an appropriate educational environment in which all can learn and achieve.

<b>Version number</b>	2.0
<b>Consultation groups</b>	PHSE Network
<b>Approved by</b>	Board of Trustees – Education Standards Committee
<b>Approval date</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
<b>Adopted by</b>	Millgate School
<b>Adopted date</b>	April 2024
<b>Implementation date</b>	September 2023
<b>Policy/document owner</b>	Zack Minton
<b>Status</b>	Statutory
<b>Frequency of review</b>	Annually
<b>Next review date</b>	01/09/2024
<b>Applicable to</b>	All Discovery schools

## Document History

Version	Version Date	Author	Summary of Changes
V0.1	March 2019	Liz Braithwaite	Draft policy created
V0.1	April-July 2019	Liz Braithwaite	Consultation with Trust Board, Parents and Pupils
V1.0	September 2019	Liz Braithwaite	Changes made to policy in light of consultation comments. Final version presented to Trust Board and approved
V2.0	June 2023	Zack Minton	Review and restructure of policy. To be further updated in line with KCSIE23 and then put forward to trustees so it can be ratified.

## Contents

1. Purpose .....	1
2. Aims.....	1
3. Legal Framework.....	1
4. Policy Development .....	2
5. Definition.....	2
6. Organisation of Curriculum.....	2
7. Delivery of Curriculum .....	6
8. Equality and accessibility .....	8
9. Use of external organisations and materials .....	8
10. Roles and responsibilities.....	10
11. Parents’ right to withdraw .....	11
12. Safeguarding and Confidentiality.....	11
13. Training .....	12
Appendix 1: Curriculum Content .....	13
Appendix 2: By the end of primary school pupils should know .....	17
Appendix 3: By the end of secondary school pupils should know.....	19
Appendix 4: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE .....	21

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of Discovery Trust's Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy is to promote the well-rounded development of pupils by ensuring the provision of high-quality, age-appropriate education on sex, relationships, and health. Our aim is to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to make responsible and informed decisions in their lives, while preparing them for the challenges and opportunities of adulthood. By complying with national guidelines and local regulations, we strive to create a safe and inclusive learning environment that fosters the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, mental, and physical growth of our pupils. Additionally, this policy seeks to provide relevant information and signpost students to external services that can offer further support.

## 2. Aims

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) in our trust are to:

- Provide a framework 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
- 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

At Millgate School we believe:

- RSE is lifelong learning about ourselves including our emotions, self-esteem, relationships, rights and responsibilities and sex education.
- RSE is an entitlement for all young people. Difference and diversity must be considered when delivering RSE but not limit pupils' access to quality RSE education.
- Special educational needs or disability, gender, sexual orientation (LGBT) and age, nationality, religion, cultural and linguistic background, all affect access to RSE but are not a barrier.
- RSE is most effective when provided in the wider context of social and emotional development. In our school, successful RSE is firmly rooted in personal, social and health education (PSHE).
- RSE must enable young people to gain information, develop and transfer skills and explore attitudes and values, in order to support informed decision-making.
- RSE must ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect as set out in the Equality Act 2010.
- RSE curriculum should teach pupils how to keep themselves and their personal information safe while online.

## 3. Legal Framework

In our primary academies, we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#). This legislation also requires us to provide RSE to all pupils at our secondary academies.

We do not have to follow the National Curriculum, but we are expected to offer all pupils a curriculum that is like the National Curriculum including requirements to teach science. This would include the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum at primary level.

In teaching RSE, we're required by our funding agreements to have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

We also have regard to legal duties set out in:

- Sections 406 and 407 of the Education Act 1996
- Part 6, chapter 1 of the [Equality Act 2010](#)
- The Public Sector Equality Duty (as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). This duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities.

At Discovery Trust we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

#### **4. Policy Development**

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

- Review – a member of staff or a working group of staff from each school/central trust education team pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
- Staff consultation – staff across all schools were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
- Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy at their respective schools
- Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
- Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with our Advisory Boards and the Board of Trustees for ratification

#### **5. Definition**

RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

RSE involves a combination of sharing and exploring issues and values.

**RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.**

#### **6. Organisation of Curriculum**

Our RSE curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1, but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils, and staff, and considering the age, developmental stage, needs and feelings of our pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope

of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so that pupils are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

Our RSE programme is an integral part of our whole school Pillars curriculum.

High quality relationships and sex education helps create safe school communities in which pupils can grow, learn and develop positive, healthy behaviour for life. We teach RSE on the understanding that:

- it is taught in the context of family life;
- it is part of a wider process of social, personal, spiritual and moral education;
- children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies;
- children should learn about their responsibilities to others, and be aware of the consequences of sexual activity;
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect, both in person and online;
- it makes a significant contribution to our duty to safeguard and protect all children;
- it plays a key role in improving health outcomes for children and young people such as reducing teenage pregnancy and risk taking behaviour, including online behaviour.

We teach about relationships and sex through different aspects of the curriculum. While we carry out the main RSE in our Pillars curriculum, we also do some RSE through the statutory science curriculum and other subject areas, such as PE. We believe all these contribute significantly to children's knowledge and understanding of positive relationships, their own bodies, and how they are changing and developing.

Our relationship and sex education provision and will cover: Relationships	Health and mental well being	Other foci Living in the Wider World – Beyond DFE framework
Families and people who care for me Caring friendship Respectful friendships Online Relationships Being Safe	Mental Well being Internet Safety and Harm Physical health and fitness Healthy Eating Drug, alcohol and tobacco Health and prevention Basic First Aid Changing Adolescent Body	Economic Wellbeing Enterprise Careers

The overriding concepts explored through the curriculum are:

- Identity (their personal qualities, attitudes, skills, attributes and achievements and what influences these; understanding and maintaining boundaries around their personal privacy, including online)
- Relationships (including different types and in different settings, including online)
- A healthy (including physically, emotionally and socially), balanced lifestyle (including within relationships, work-life, exercise and rest, spending and saving and lifestyle choices)
- Risk (identification, assessment and how to manage risk, rather than simply the avoidance of risk for self and others) and safety (including behaviour and strategies to employ in different settings, including online in an increasingly connected world)

- Diversity and equality (in all its forms, with due regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010)
- Rights (including the notion of universal human rights), responsibilities (including fairness and justice) and consent (in different contexts)
- Change (as something to be managed) and resilience (the skills, strategies and ‘inner resources’ we can draw on when faced with challenging change or circumstance)
- Power (how it is used and encountered in a variety of contexts including online; how it manifests through behaviours including bullying, persuasion, coercion and how it can be challenged or managed through negotiation and ‘win-win’ outcomes)
- Career (including enterprise, employability and economic understanding)

We understand the importance of ensuring that all children in our school receive their entitlement to RSE. We will carefully consider special educational needs or disability, gender, sexual orientation and age, nationality, religion, cultural and linguistic background when planning and delivering RSE.

In relation to nationality, sexual orientation, religion and cultural diversity, we value the different backgrounds of our pupils and, in addressing different views and beliefs, seek to promote tolerance and understanding.

In order to ensure the RSE Curriculum meets the needs of all:

- We will accept and celebrate difference.
- We will encourage respect and discourage abuse and exploitation.
- We will not ask children to represent the views of a particular religious or cultural group to their peers, unless they choose to do so.

With regards to Millgate school being an SEND school which supports students with SEMH, we will review our RSE Programme to ensure that provision is made for those with additional needs.

We will consider:

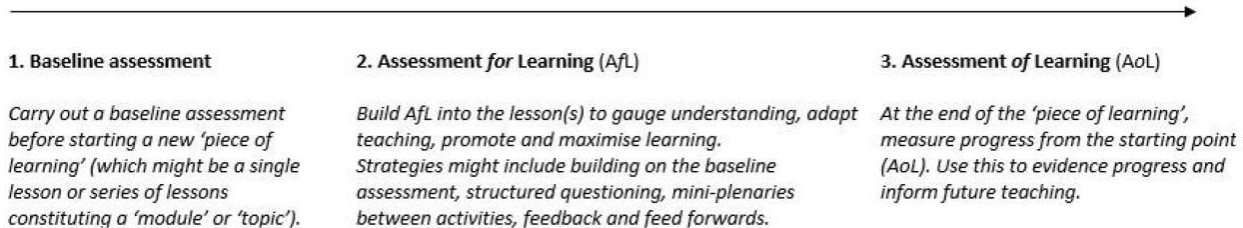
- their level of vulnerability
- their need to learn and demonstrate appropriate behaviour
- their need to develop self-esteem and positive body image
- the need to involve all staff, including support staff and carers, in policy development, planning and training
- the management of personal care
- clarity about sources of support for pupils.

Our RSE programme will be taught through a range of teaching methods and interactive activities, including use of drama techniques, scenario script writing, videoing, animating, range of presentation styles, debate, discussions, investigating and analysing information, blogs, podcast, journaling/diary writing. Lessons will be differentiated by all staff or visitors delivering sessions to ensure that individual needs of children are met.

Selected resources, such as books and film clips, will be used which support and promote understanding within a moral/values context. High quality resources will support our RSE provision and will be regularly reviewed. We will avoid a ‘resource-led’ approach to delivering RSE, instead focusing on the needs of the children and our planned learning objectives. We will carefully select resources which meet these objectives. We will carefully evaluate teacher resources, leaflets and videos, before using them. We will select resources which:

- are consistent with our Curriculum for RSE
- relate to the aims and objectives of this Policy
- are suitable to the age, maturity, needs, linguistic proficiency and ability of the children
- appeal to adults and children
- are up-to-date in factual content
- are produced by a reputable organisation
- do not show unfair bias e.g. towards a commercial product
- avoid racial, gender and sexual stereotyping
- encourage active and participative learning
- conform to the legal requirements for RSE.

Learning about relationships and sex education in Pillars lessons will link to/complement learning in Science, Health Education, including mental health education. Pupils will be encouraged to reflect on their own learning and progress, either through self-evaluation tools or through discussion. . This will be integral within the approach to assessment of RSE. We recognise that it is difficult for teachers to accurately assess a pupil’s self-confidence or sense of their own identity and values, however, pupils themselves will be able to judge, for instance, whether they feel more confident, or have a firmer sense



*Model taken from PSHE Association Primary Toolkit 2017*

The learning we wish to assess will relate to the pupils’ attributes and skills (such as resilience, negotiation, self-awareness, risk management and interpersonal skills), as well as the knowledge and understanding related to the context (for example bullying, consent, mental and emotional health).

## **6.1. Primary Schools**

6.1.1. Each Trust primary school is required to deliver statutory relationships education and health education.

6.1.2. “Relationships education” is defined as teaching pupils about healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online.

6.1.3. “Health education” is defined as teaching pupils about physical health and mental wellbeing, focusing on recognising the link between the two and being able to make healthy lifestyle choices.

## **6.2. Secondary Schools**

6.2.1. Each Trust secondary school is required to deliver statutory relationships & sex education and health education.

6.2.2. Relationships & sex education (RSE)” is defined as teaching pupils about developing healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, and helping them to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others.

6.2.3. “Health education” is defined as teaching pupils about how they can make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, and how physical health and mental wellbeing are interlinked.

6.3. The majority of RSE, relationships education and health education curriculum will be delivered through our Pillar curriculum, with statutory elements taught via the science curriculum.

6.4. The curriculum for RSE, relationships education and health education will be available on each Trust school’s website.

## **7. Delivery of Curriculum**

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

Across our primary academies, 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

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

Across our secondary academies, RSE 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 RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

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).

Across our trust, we will also be mindful of the law and legal requirements, taking care not to condone or encourage illegal political activity, such as violent action against people, criminal damage to property, hate crime, terrorism, or the illegal use of drugs.

7.1. Curriculum development and delivery will adhere to the DfE (2020) 'Teaching about relationships, sex and health' guidance.

7.2. The RSE, relationships education and health education curriculum will be delivered by appropriately trained members of staff, using units such as; the DfE CPD RSE training units.

7.3. The curriculum will proactively address issues in a timely way in line with current evidence on pupil's physical, emotional, and sexual development, as relevant.

7.4. RSE, relationships education and health education will be delivered in a non-judgemental, age-appropriate, factual, and inclusive way that allows pupils to ask questions in a safe environment.

7.5. The school will integrate LGBTQ+ content into the RSE curriculum. LGBTQ+ content will be approached in a sensitive, age-appropriate, and factual way that allows pupils to explore gender identity and the features of stable and healthy same-sex relationships.

7.6. Classes may be taught in gender-segregated groups dependent on the nature of the topic being delivered at the time, and the cultural background of pupils where it is only appropriate to discuss the body in single gender groups.

7.7. Throughout every year group, appropriate diagrams, videos, books, games, discussion, and practical activities will be used to assist learning. Inappropriate images, videos, etc. will not be used, and resources will be selected with sensitivity given to the age and cultural background of pupils.

7.8. Pupils will be prevented from accessing inappropriate materials on the internet when using such to assist with their learning. The prevention measures taken to ensure this are outlined in the school's Acceptable Usage policies.

7.9. Teachers will establish what is appropriate for one-to-one and whole class settings and alter their teaching of the programmes accordingly.

7.10. Teachers will ensure that pupils' views are listened to and will encourage them to ask questions and engage in discussion. Teachers will answer questions sensitively and honestly.

7.11. Schools are responsible for ensuring that speakers, tools, and resources do not denounce capitalism or undermine the fundamental British values of democracy; the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

7.12. Schools should not under any circumstances use resources produced by organisations that take extreme political stances on matters. This is the case even if the material itself is not extreme, as the use of it could imply endorsement or support of the organisation.

## **8. Equality and accessibility**

8.1. The school will comply with the relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and will ensure the curriculum does not discriminate against pupils because of their; Age, Sex, Race, Disability, Religion or belief, Gender reassignment, Pregnancy or maternity, Marriage or civil partnership, Sexual orientation.

8.2. The school will consider the backgrounds, gender, age range and needs of its pupils and determine whether it is necessary to put in place additional support for pupils with the above protected characteristics.

8.3. The school understands that pupils with SEND are entitled to learn about RSE and health education, and the curriculum will be designed to be inclusive of all pupils.

8.4. The school is aware that some pupils are more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND – teachers will understand that they may need to liaise with the SENCO and be more explicit and adapt their planning or work to appropriately deliver the curriculum to pupils with SEND.

8.5. Where there is a need to tailor content and teaching to meet the needs of pupils at different developmental stages, the school will ensure the teaching remains sensitive, age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate and is delivered with reference to the law.

8.6. The school will take steps to foster healthy and respectful peer-to-peer communication and behaviour between all pupils and provide an environment which challenges perceived limits on pupils based on their gender or any other characteristic.

8.7. The school will be actively aware of everyday issues such as sexism, misogyny, homophobia, and gender stereotypes and take positive action to build a culture within which these are not tolerated. Any occurrences of such issues will be identified and tackled promptly.

8.8. The school will make clear that sexual violence and sexual harassment are not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Any reports of sexual violence or sexual harassment will be handled in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

## **9. Use of external organisations and materials**

Leicester City Council Sexual Health Clinic has supported us with devising our resources and provided staff training in the delivery of the content. Any agency and any materials used are appropriate and in line with our legal duties around political impartiality.

We remain responsible for what is said to pupils. This includes making sure that any speakers, tools, and resources used don't undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Our academies **will**:

- Make appropriate checks and engage with external agencies to make sure that their approach to teaching about RSE is balanced, and it and the resources they intend to use:
  - Are age-appropriate
  - Are in line with pupils' developmental stage
  - Comply with:
    - This policy
    - The [Teachers' Standards](#)
    - The [Equality Act 2010](#)
    - The [Human Rights Act 1998](#)
    - The [Education Act 1996](#)
- Only work with external agencies where they have full confidence in the agency, its approach, and the resources it uses
- Make sure that any speakers and resources meet the intended outcome of the relevant part of the curriculum
- Review any case study materials and look for feedback from other people the agency has worked with
- Be clear on:
  - What they're going to say
  - Their position on the issues to be discussed
- Ask to see in advance any materials that the agency may use
- Know the named individuals who will be there, and follow usual safeguarding procedures for these people
- Conduct a basic online search and address anything that may be of concern to the school, or to parents and carers
- Check the agency's protocol for taking pictures or using any personal data they might get from a session
- Remind teachers that they can say "no" or, in extreme cases, stop a session
- Make sure that the teacher is in the room during any sessions with external speakers

Our academies **won't**, under any circumstances:

- Work with external agencies that take or promote extreme political positions
- Use materials produced by such agencies, even if the material itself is not extreme

## **10. Roles and responsibilities**

### **10.1 The board of trustees**

The board of trustees will approve the RSE policy at Trust level.

### **10.2 Advisory Board**

Advisory Boards are responsible for supporting the implementation of the policy at their school and reporting issues to the Head of Safeguarding and CEO if they occur.

### **10.3 The headteacher**

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across their school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory/non-science components of RSE (see section 11).

### **10.4 Staff**

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory/non-science components of RSE

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

RSE is delivered by Primary staff, teachers of the Pillars and Science curriculum as well as intervention delivered by the BART team

### **10.5 Pillar Lead**

The role of the Pillars Lead at our school includes the responsibility of reviewing and evaluating the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) programme. The Pillars Lead will report to the Head Teacher regarding this task.

To support staff in their planning and delivery of the 'Curriculum for RSE,' the Pillars Lead will assist by providing lesson plans and activities for colleagues. They will also gather assessments, liaise with PSHE advisors, plan INSET to meet staff needs, and coordinate with visitors who support the RSE curriculum.

### **10.6 Pupils**

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

## **11. Parents' right to withdraw**

**11.1** Parents have the right to request that their child is withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE (secondary schools only).

**11.2.** Parents do not have a right to withdraw their child from the relationships or health elements of the programmes.

**11.3.** Requests to withdraw a child from sex education must be made in writing to the headteacher or nominated deputy.

**11.4.** Before granting a withdrawal request, the headteacher (or nominated deputy) will discuss the request with the parents and, as appropriate, the child, to ensure their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum.

**11.5.** They will inform parents of the benefits of their child receiving RSE and any detrimental effects that withdrawal might have.

**11.6.** All discussions with parents will be documented. These records will be kept securely.

**11.7.** Following discussions with parents, the school will respect the request to withdraw their child up to and until three terms before the child turns 16, except in exceptional circumstances. After this point, if the child wishes to receive RSE rather than be withdrawn, the school will plan to provide the child with RSE.

**11.8.** Pupils who are withdrawn from RSE will receive appropriate, purposeful education during the full period of withdrawal.

**11.9.** For requests concerning the withdrawal of a pupil with SEND, the headteacher may take the pupils' specific needs into account when making their decision.

## **12. Safeguarding and Confidentiality**

**12.1.** All pupils will be taught about keeping themselves safe, including online, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum.

**12.2** To meet DfE best practice advice, the DSL will be involved in the formulation of safeguarding-related areas of the curriculum, as the knowledge and resources may help to address safeguarding issues more appropriately and effectively.

**12.3.** When teaching issues that are particularly sensitive for pupils of all ages, e.g. self-harm or suicide, teachers will be made aware of the risks of inadvertently encouraging, or providing instructions to, pupils. Teaching of these subjects will always prioritise preventing self-harm or suicide as a central goal.

**12.4** Confidentiality within the classroom is an important component of RSE and health education, and teachers are expected to respect the confidentiality of their pupils as far as is possible.

12.5 Teachers will, however, understand that some aspects of RSE may lead to a pupil raising a safeguarding concern, e.g. disclosing that they are being abused, and that if a disclosure is made, the DSL will be alerted immediately.

12.6 Pupils will be made aware of how to raise their concerns or make a report, and how their report will be handled – this includes the process for when they have a concern about a peer.

### **13. Training**

13.1. Training will be provided by the RSE and health education subject leader, alongside other school leaders and selected outside agencies.

13.2. Training will be delivered to the relevant members of staff on a regular basis to ensure they are up to date with the RSE and health education curriculum.

13.3. Training materials will be based on the Department for Education RSE CPD units.

13.4. Training will be focussed on both subject knowledge and pedagogical theory relating to methods of delivery e.g. distancing techniques.

13.5. Training will also be scheduled around any updated guidance on the curriculum and any new developments, which may need to be addressed in relation to the curriculum.

13.6. Appropriately trained staff will be able to give pupils information on where and how to obtain confidential advice, counselling, and treatments.

## Appendix 1: Curriculum Content

For the clarity of this document, we have included all Key Stage content due to the variety of academic levels that students enter our school with.

### Key Stage 1 (age 5-7 years)

#### Year 1 pupils should be taught to:

- identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

#### Year 2 pupils should be taught to:

- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

### Notes and guidance

They should also be introduced to the processes of reproduction and growth in animals. The focus at this stage should be on questions that help pupils to recognise growth; they should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs.

The following examples might be used: egg, chick, chicken; egg, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly; spawn, tadpole, frog; lamb, sheep. Growing into adults can include reference to baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult.

### Key Stage 2 (age 7-11 years)

#### Year 5 pupils should be taught to:

- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals
- describe the changes as humans develop to old age

### Notes and guidance

Pupils should find out about different types of reproduction, including sexual and asexual reproduction in plants, and sexual reproduction in animals.

They might try to grow new plants from different parts of the parent plant, for example, seeds, stem and root cuttings, tubers, bulbs. They might observe changes in an animal over a period of time (for example, by hatching and rearing chicks), comparing how different animals reproduce and grow.

Pupils should draw a timeline to indicate stages in the growth and development of humans. They should learn about the changes experienced in puberty. Pupils could work scientifically by researching the gestation periods of other animals and comparing them with humans; by finding out and recording the length and mass of a baby as it grows.

#### Year 6 pupils should be taught to:

- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function

### Notes and guidance

Pupils should learn how to keep their bodies healthy and how their bodies might be damaged – including how some drugs and other substances can be harmful to the human body.

They should be introduced to the idea that characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring, for instance by considering different breeds of dogs, and what happens when, for example, Labradors are crossed with poodles. They should also appreciate that variation in offspring over time can make animals more or less able to survive in particular environments, for example, by exploring how giraffes' necks got longer, or the development of insulating fur on the arctic fox. Pupils might find out about the work of palaeontologists such as Mary Anning and about how Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace developed their ideas on evolution. Note: At this stage, pupils are not expected to understand how genes and chromosomes work.

'The programmes of study for science are set out year-by-year for key stages 1 and 2. Schools are, however, only required to teach the relevant programme of study by the end of the key stage. Within each key stage, schools therefore have the flexibility to introduce content earlier or later than set out in the programme of study. In addition, schools can introduce key stage content during an earlier key stage if appropriate. All schools are also required to set out their school curriculum for science on a year-by-year basis and make this information available online.'



**Department for Education.**

**How SRE is provided and by whom**

Year	Taught in Pillars	Taught in Science
7	<p><b>H11. contraception</b>  <b>H12. STIs</b>  <b>R4. positive qualities of relationships</b>  <b>R5.</b> that relationships can cause strong feelings and emotions (including sexual attraction)  <b>R6. positive and unhealthy relationships</b>  <b>R8.</b> different types of relationships  <b>R12.</b> how to deal with the breakdown of a relationship  <b>R16.</b> to acknowledge and respect the right not to have intimate relationships until ready  <b>R17.</b> about readiness for sex and the benefits of delaying sexual activity  <b>R18, R19, R20.</b> consent  <b>R28. bullying</b>  <b>R29. support services</b>  <b>R31. Peer pressure</b></p>	<p>Reproduction: cells, sex cells, fertilisation, sexual intercourse, STIs, menstrual cycle, pregnancy and birthing process.  Relationships, feelings and puberty.</p>
8	<p><b>R23. sex in the media</b>  <b>R24.</b> Sex and gender  <b>R25. diversity in sexual attraction and sexuality</b>  <b>R26. sex, gender identity and sexual orientation</b>  <b>R27.</b> sexism, homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, racism and disablist language and behaviour  <b>R33. Weapon laws</b>  <b>R34. Friendships and gangs</b>  <b>R32.</b> ‘habit’, ‘dependence’ and ‘addiction’  <b>R35. information communication technology</b>  <b>R36 and R37.</b> personal boundaries and the right to privacy  <b>R38. explicit images and criminality</b>  <b>H27. Peer pressure and use of substances</b></p>	<p>Inheritance and Evolution: breeding. characteristics gained from parents, artificial insemination.</p>
9	<p><b>R7. media and relationships</b>  <b>R11. the roles and responsibilities of carers</b>  <b>R9 and R10.</b> marriage, civil partnerships and other stable, long-term relationships  <b>R15. intimacy</b>  <b>H8.</b> female genital mutilation (FGM)</p>	<p>Stem cells, cloning and IVF: basic cell structure and unspecialised cells (STEM cells), cells with a function. STEM cells, sex cells (Gametes), cloning and IVF.</p>
10	<p><b>H8.</b> How lifestyle choices affect a developing foetus &amp; IVF-wonder of you.  <b>H9. STIs</b>  <b>R13.</b> diversity in sexual attraction and developing sexuality  <b>R14. sex in the media</b>  <b>R17.</b> gender double standards and victim-blaming  <b>R20.</b> faith and cultural expectations concerning relationships and sexual activity  <b>R21. to assess readiness for sex</b>  <b>R22. Contraception</b>  <b>R25. abortion</b></p>	<p>Stem cells, cloning and IVF</p>
11	<p><b>R2.</b> benefits of positive, strong, supportive, equal relationships  <b>R24. adoption/fostering</b>  <b>R6.</b> changes in personal relationships  <b>R9. domestic abuse</b>  <b>R11. and R12</b> about statutory and voluntary organisations that support relationships  <b>R16. manipulation, persuasion or coercion</b></p>	<p>Stem cells, cloning and IVF</p>

	<b>R18. Drugs and sex</b> <b>R23. unintended pregnancy</b> <b>R4. parenting skills</b> <b>H6. sexual health services</b> <b>R5. unhealthy or abusive relationships</b>	
--	--	--

It is compulsory for all maintained schools to teach some parts of sex education i.e. the biological aspects of puberty, reproduction and the spread of viruses. These topics are statutory parts of the National Curriculum Science which must be taught to all pupils of primary and secondary age.

There is also a requirement for secondary schools to teach about HIV, AIDS and sexually transmitted infections as part of the National Curriculum Science.

## Appendix 2: By the end of primary school pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families and people who care about me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong</li> <li>• How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed</li> </ul>
Caring friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends</li> <li>• The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties</li> <li>• That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
Respectful relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships</li> <li>• The conventions of courtesy and manners</li> <li>• The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive</li> <li>• The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults</li> </ul>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Online relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them</li> <li>• How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met</li> <li>• How information and data is shared and used online</li> </ul>
Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact</li> <li>• How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know</li> <li>• How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult</li> <li>• How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard</li> <li>• How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so</li> <li>• Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources</li> </ul>

### Appendix 3: By the end of secondary school pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That there are different types of committed, stable relationships</li> <li>• How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into</li> <li>• The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships</li> <li>• The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
Respectful relationships, including friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships</li> <li>• 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)</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help</li> <li>• That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control</li> <li>• What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
Online and media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them</li> <li>• What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online</li> <li>• The impact of viewing harmful content</li> </ul>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail</li> <li>• How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online</li> </ul>
Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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)</li> </ul>
Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• The facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women</li> <li>• That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others</li> <li>• That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex</li> <li>• The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available</li> <li>• The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage</li> <li>• 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)</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment</li> <li>• How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour</li> <li>• How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment</li> </ul>

**Appendix 4: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE**

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	<p>Include notes from discussions with parents and agreed actions taken.</p> <p>Eg: Joe Bloggs will be taking part in all relationships lessons and during the sex education lessons, he will be working independently on a project in the Year 5 classroom</p>