

Rossington St Michael's C of E Primary School

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

2025-2026



Date of Policy: September 2025

Date of Review: September 2026

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Vision Statement

At Rossington St Michael's CE Primary School, our vision is that all feel welcomed and accepted, loved, and able to achieve. Our RSE curriculum supports this vision by ensuring that all pupils feel safe, valued, and equipped with the knowledge and confidence to make positive, respectful choices throughout their lives.

1. Aims

The aims of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a safe and supportive framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for the changes that puberty brings and provide an understanding of sexual development and reproductive health
- Help pupils develop confidence, self-respect, and empathy for others

- Create a positive culture around issues of relationships and sexuality
 - Equip pupils with the correct vocabulary to describe themselves, their bodies, and relationships
 - Support pupils' understanding of healthy relationships, consent, and online safety
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2. Statutory Requirements

As a primary academy, we must provide relationships education to all pupils under Section 34 of the **Children and Social Work Act 2017**. In line with updated **Department for Education guidance (September 2025)**:

- **Relationships education is compulsory** for all primary pupils
- **Health education is also compulsory**
- Sex education is **not statutory** in primary schools, but we choose to teach limited content in line with the science curriculum and to prepare pupils appropriately for adolescence

We also comply with relevant legislation including the **Equality Act 2010, Education Act 1996**, and our statutory duties in safeguarding and SEND.

3. Policy Development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils, governors, and parents through the following steps:

1. **Review:** Consideration of national and local guidance, including statutory updates from 2025
 2. **Staff consultation:** Staff provided feedback and recommendations
 3. **Parent/stakeholder consultation:** Meetings and surveys to gather parental views
 4. **Pupil consultation:** Engagement to understand pupils' needs and questions
 5. **Ratification:** Final policy reviewed and approved by governors
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4. Definition

RSE is the lifelong learning about physical, moral, and emotional development. It involves understanding:

- Healthy relationships, including friendships and family life
- Puberty and the human life cycle
- Sexual health and reproduction (at an age-appropriate level)
- Diversity and respect for others
- Consent, boundaries, and staying safe both online and offline

RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

5. Curriculum

Our RSE curriculum is informed by statutory guidance and has been developed with consideration of our pupils' age, maturity, needs, and backgrounds. It is reviewed annually.

Key themes include:

- Changes in the human body (puberty)
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health
- Family structures and relationships
- Respect and responsibility
- Online safety and digital boundaries
- How babies are conceived and born (Year 6 only, optional)

See **Appendix 1** for our curriculum map.

See **Appendix 2** for the DfE's expectations of what pupils should know by the end of primary.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught primarily through **PSHE**, **Science**, and **RE**, and supported by **visits from health professionals** (e.g. school nursing team).

Relationships education includes:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

Lessons are:

- Inclusive and sensitive to all family backgrounds and beliefs
- Grounded in age-appropriate and factual teaching
- Underpinned by safeguarding procedures

We make use of best practice methods, including:

- Storytelling and discussion
 - Circle time and reflection
 - Scenario-based learning
 - Clear ground rules for safe and respectful conversation
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7. Roles and Responsibilities

7.1 Local School Board

The LSB will:

- Approve the RSE policy
- Monitor its implementation
- Ensure parental consultation takes place

7.2 Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring that RSE is taught consistently
- Managing parental withdrawal requests
- Supporting staff and ensuring the curriculum meets statutory expectations

7.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE with sensitivity and professionalism
- Creating a safe learning environment
- Responding to pupils' needs and questions appropriately
- Following safeguarding protocols when concerns arise

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Any concerns should be discussed with the Headteacher.

7.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to:

- Engage fully in RSE
 - Treat others with dignity and respect
 - Ask questions and express views safely
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8. Parents' Right to Withdraw

Under current legislation:

- Parents **do not have the right** to withdraw their children from **relationships education** or **health education**
- Parents **may withdraw** their child from the **non-statutory components** of sex education in Year 6

Requests must be made in writing using the form in **Appendix 3**. The Headteacher will discuss the request and ensure alternative learning is provided.

9. Staff Training

- All staff delivering RSE receive training as part of induction and ongoing CPD
 - The PSHE/RSE lead supports staff with planning and delivery
 - External professionals (e.g. school nurses) may be invited to deliver sessions or provide CPD
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10. Monitoring and Evaluation

RSE delivery is monitored through:

- Lesson observations and learning walks
- Planning and work scrutiny
- Pupil voice feedback
- Staff evaluation

The PSHE/RSE lead and Headteacher are responsible for ensuring quality and consistency.

This policy is reviewed annually and approved by the LSB.

Appendix 1: RSE Curriculum Map

Year Group	Sex & Health Education	Relationships Education
Reception (F2)	- Daily routines and hygiene	- Recognising different families
Year 1	- Hygiene- Changes (babies to adults)- Safe touch (<i>School Nurse</i>)	- Types of families- Feelings and friendships
Year 2	- Male/female differences- Gender stereotypes- Body parts- Safe touch (<i>revisited</i>)	- Feelings and relationships
Year 3	- Body parts- Personal space and consent	- Families- Friendships- Separation and loss
Year 4	- Life cycle- Puberty begins- Reproduction link	- Respecting differences- Friendships
Year 5	- Puberty (emotional & physical) (<i>School Nurse</i>)- Hygiene	- Relationships and memories- Bullying and peer pressure
Year 6	- Puberty, reproduction, conception, and pregnancy (<i>School Nurse</i>)	- Physical and emotional behaviour- Appropriate information sharing- Transitions and growing up

Appendix 2: By the End of Primary, Pupils Should Know

This follows the statutory guidance under the following headings:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

Appendix 3: Parent Form – Withdrawal from Sex Education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/CARER

Child's Name

Class

Name of Parent/Carer

Date

Reason for withdrawing from sex education within RSE

Any other information you would like the school to consider

Signature

TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOOL

| Agreed actions following discussion with parent | |