

PSHE/R(S)E policy guidance for schools

This document outlines **guidance** to help you develop a PSHE/R(S)E policy for your school.

A policy should be developed using a Whole School Approach and designed with school staff, pupils, parents/carers, and school governors. The policy should demonstrate how the school plans to embed PSHE/R(S)E across the school and its learning curriculum. Policies are essential for maintaining clear leadership and guidance to support health and wellbeing and should be reviewed every 2 years to ensure they remain relevant to the school's needs.

As part of the Education Act 2002/Academies Act 2010 all schools must provide a 'balanced and broadly-based curriculum' which promotes 'the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development of pupils at the school and of society', which prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life.

This guidance was developed by the Leicestershire Healthy Schools Team and will be reviewed every 6 months (next review date June 2023).

Your policy should include the following information:

Introduction

- Name of PSHE/RSE Coordinator.
- Name of PSHE/RSE Governor.
- A statement about the schools intent for RSE and how it supports the schools aims, mission statement and ethos.
- Clear definition of Relationships and Sex Education.
- For primary schools that may choose to teach sex education – define any sex education they choose to teach other than that covered in the science curriculum and at what age.
- How the policy is sensitive to the spiritual/religious culture of the school.
- Links to other relevant policies (e.g., Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy).
- Requirements on schools in law e.g., the Equality Act (please see The Equality Act 2010 and schools: Departmental advice), The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, the Education Act 2002/Academies Act 2010, Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Main Content

- Clearly outline the subject content, how it is taught and who is responsible for teaching it (staff members name/role).
- Explain key objectives of school's PSHE/RSE programme.
- Include information to clarify why parents do not have a right to withdraw their child from mandatory subjects (primary).
- Include information about a parent's right to request that their child be excused from sex education within RSE only (secondary).
- For primary schools that may choose to teach sex education - include information about a parent's right to request that their child be excused.
- Details of content/scheme of work and when each topic is taught, taking account of the age of pupils.

- How the curriculum supports students to make informed decisions.
- All schools must ensure that RSHE is accessible for all pupils and should comply with the SEND Code of Practice. [SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25-years)
- Describe how the subject is monitored and evaluated.
- Provide links to examples of resources used as part of PSHE/RSE programme
- Mention staff training and visitors from outside, such as health professionals, Police, etc.
- State that the personal beliefs and attitudes of staff will not influence the delivery of RSHE. A balanced and non-judgmental approach will be taken. Teachers, and all those contributing to RSHE, will work to the agreed values within this policy.
- Acknowledge that parents and carers are key partners in RSHE and are best placed to support their children to understand how their learning at school fits with their family's faith, beliefs and values. To support this process, school will ensure that parents are made aware of what will be taught and when.
- Discuss how open discussion during PSHE/RSE may lead to disclosures from pupils and how these will be sensitively dealt with, according to your Safeguarding and Child Protection policy and procedures.

Guidance for the Management of Incidents in the Schools Community

- Pupils found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Medical emergencies
- Threatening behaviour
- Searching
- Controlled substances
- Safeguarding
- Confidentiality
- Child Criminal exploitation (CCE)
- Managing incidents
- Monitoring & Review

Useful links and organisations

- [Relationships and sex education \(RSE\) and health education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education)
- [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/keeping-children-safe-in-education)
- [Education Act 2011 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/25) - [Academies Act 2010 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/25)
- [Learning and Skills Act 2000 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/49)
- [How to Talk to Children About Sex & Safety | NSPCC | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/education/)
- [PSHE Association | Charity and membership body for PSHE education \(pshe-association.org.uk\)](https://www.pshe-association.org.uk/)
- [Political impartiality in schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/political-impartiality-in-schools)
- [Equality Act 2010: guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance)
- [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education)
- [Education for a Connected World - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-for-a-connected-world)
- [CEOP Education \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/education/)

Policy review

- State who will monitor and QA the delivery
- Review process to take place at least every 2 years.
- Review process to include whole school (e.g., school staff, pupils, parents & carers, and school governors)
- Policy is available on school website

