

September
2021

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Approved by Governors:	16 th October 2021
Signed	 Mrs F Boulton, Chair of Governors
For review:	September 2024

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

BALDWINS GATE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

Our school ethos is one where all are valued, encouraged, and respected. Where caring and positive relationships are fostered. Our RSE learning focuses on mutual respect, tolerance of all and loving, secure relationships. We aim to enhance confidence and develop the self-esteem of all.

Our RSE is based on the following important principles:

- Honesty and openness.
- Self – respect, respect and tolerance for all.
- The right to hold beliefs and viewpoints of your own within boundaries of consideration and respect.
- The acceptance and tolerance of others who have viewpoints and hold beliefs which may be different.
- We have rights which include being responsible for our choices in actions and words.
- The right to accurate information enabling our understanding of differences without prejudice.
- The right to accurate information which enables us to learn about ourselves, our emotions and relationships.
- The right that we will not be taken advantage of by others. Having the right to be both secure and safe.

Pupils should learn about marriage and stable relationships yet in a diverse society there are many loving stable relationships and family may be different. We acknowledge this with respect taking care not to stigmatise our children and their homes and families.

Our aims

- To create a safe environment where children feel confident to listen and talk about feelings and relationships.
- To help our children learn about themselves, respecting themselves and others.
- To develop confidence about changes as they move through childhood, adolescence and adulthood.
- To help the management of emotions and create a supportive forum which can clarify myths and misconceptions.
- To develop an understanding of the value of secure relationships and the value of a family life appreciating that there are many valued types of family. To appreciate this without stigma or prejudice.
- To prepare children for the opportunities and responsibilities of adult life. To promote a healthy and active lifestyle.
- To develop values of respect and tolerance within an understanding that there are differences and that injustices and prejudices are wrong.
- To be able to talk honestly and openly respecting the maturity of our pupils on topics which are sensitive should these topics arise naturally. This will be treated carefully, sensitively and in accordance with the principles of this policy.

Differentiation and Entitlement

At Baldwins Gate CE Primary School we value and celebrate cultural diversity. In line with the Equalities Act (2010), we will explore assumptions about different cultural beliefs and values and encourage a sense of inclusiveness.

Our SRE Programme is inclusive and will consider the needs of all vulnerable groups. We recognise that children and adults in our school may hold different religious and cultural beliefs about RSE. Where necessary, we will encourage consultation and discussion with children and parents to ensure that we consider cultural, religious and linguistic needs in the development and review of our RSE policy and programme.

Our learning aims

We aim to develop our children's understanding of the physical, biological, emotional and moral aspects of sex and sexuality. To prepare pupils for later life experiences.

Our RSE while taught as a focused subject during years Years 5 and 6, it can also be taught through:

- School ethos and values
- PSHE curriculum
- Science curriculum
- ICT internet safety
- Focused themes
- Visitors to school (school nurse)

Through our curriculum we aim to:

- Learn about animal and human life processes, including life cycles, conception, birth, childhood, puberty and adulthood.
- Understand and learn about the biology of human/animal reproduction in a scientific way using scientific terminology.
- Know that both humans and animals reproduce and produce offspring.
- Recognise and name the external parts of the body using the correct biological scientific terms.
- Develop an understanding of physical and emotional changes which occur particularly in puberty in both boys and girls.
- Where appropriate, learn about LGBT in programmes of study but not as a stand alone unit or lesson.
- Learn how they can keep healthy and safe.
- Develop an understanding and recognition of when they are in safe and unsafe situations. To be able to identify these and to know that there are adults that they are able to go to.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Children learn about the concept of male and female and about young animals. In ongoing PSHE work they develop skills to form friendships with others.

Key Stage 1

Through work in science children learn about life cycles of some animals, understand the idea of growing from young to old and learn that all living things reproduce. They learn about the importance of personal hygiene to maintain good health. In RE and Citizenship children reflect on family relationships, different family groups and friendship. They learn about rituals and traditions associated with birth, marriage and death and talk about the emotion involved.

Key Stage 2

During Years 5 and 6 our children are taught about changes which occur during puberty. This is a focused unit taught to a combined group of boys and girls. Our girls are taught as a separate group about menstruation. A variety of resources are used and parents can view the materials and discuss them. We also encourage communication between parents and child at this time to open a dialogue on sensitive matters to encourage openness and confidence.

Guidance for staff

At all times remember you are dealing with sensitive issues. Personal viewpoints, opinions and attitudes should not be expressed.

- 1 Set ground rules
 - No one will have to answer personal questions or have to take part in discussions.
 - What is said in the lesson /discussion will be treated with respect and confidentiality (unless safeguarding – see policy).
 - Questions will be answered honestly in scientific terms, including the meaning of words which will be explained in a factual way.
 - Correct scientific words for body parts will be used and incorrect/slang words which can be disrespectful will not be tolerated.
 - People have different beliefs; society is diverse and it is important to be respectful and not be prejudiced.

- 2 Difficult questions
 - Should not be sensationalised.
 - Will be treated with respect.
 - They should be acknowledged and returned to at a later time.
 - If difficult, advice/parent can be sought to help.
 - Wherever possible questions should be answered in scientific/general terms.

- 3 Confidentiality
 - RSE lessons are conducted in a sensitive manner and in confidence if possible.
 - Confidentiality must NOT be guaranteed.
 - If any disclosure is made, the school's policy and procedures must be followed.

Parents and Carers

We aim to work with parents and carers to provide RSE. We will notify the school with regard to any RSE being taught at home, particularly in years 5 and 6. Parents can meet with school staff and/or view the materials used. Parents are encouraged to use this opportunity to open a dialogue with their children.

Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from this unit. Children would be supervised in another lesson.

Parents cannot withdraw their children from Science aspects of the National Curriculum (namely aspects of human reproduction/life cycle/human growth). Also, pupils cannot be withdrawn from Relationships or Health Education.

Resources

All resources are selected to ensure that they are consistent with the school's ethos and support the delivery of RSE programme. These are reviewed annually and are available to staff, parents and governors.

The governing body review this policy and monitor its implementation.