



# Relationships and Sex Education Policy

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Aligned to HEPS  
Approved by SLT

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# RSE Policy

## Context

All schools must provide a curriculum that is broadly based, balanced and meets the needs of all pupils. Under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010, a PSHE curriculum: Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

This policy meets the requirements that schools publish a Relationships and Sex Education policy and does this within the wider context of Personal, Social and Health Education.

## PSHE

At Huish Episcopi Primary School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity.

We use the Jigsaw Programme. This offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through scheme of work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area.

This also supports the 'Personal Development' and 'Behaviour and Attitude' aspects evaluated under the Ofsted Inspection Framework, as well as significantly contributing to the school's safeguarding and equality duties, the government's British Values agenda and the SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural) development opportunities provided for our children.

## Statutory Relationships and Health Education

'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, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education...They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools.' (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p. 8)

"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...as well as making Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools."

“In primary schools, we want the subjects to put in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online. This will sit alongside the essential understanding of how to be healthy.”

“These subjects represent a huge opportunity to help our children and young people develop. The knowledge and attributes gained will support their own, and others’ wellbeing and attainment and help young people to become successful and happy adults who make a meaningful contribution to society.” (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p.4-5)

“Schools are free to determine how to deliver the content set out in the DfE guidance 2019 in the context of a broad and balanced curriculum. Effective teaching in these subjects will ensure that core knowledge is broken down into units of manageable size and communicated clearly to pupils, in a carefully sequenced way, within a planned programme of lessons.” (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p.8)

“All schools must have in place a written policy for Relationships Education and RSE.” (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p.11)

Here, at Huish Episcopi Primary School, we value PSHE as one way to support children’s development as human beings, to enable them to understand and respect who they are, to empower them with a voice and to equip them for life and learning.

We include the statutory Relationships and Health Education within our whole-school PSHE Programme.

To ensure progression and a spiral curriculum, we use ‘Jigsaw - The Mindful Approach To PSHE’ as our chosen teaching and learning programme and tailor it to children’s needs. The mapping document: [Jigsaw 3-11 and statutory Relationships and Health Education, jigsaw-3-11-and-rshe-overview-map.pdf \(windows.net\)](#), shows exactly how Jigsaw and therefore our school, meets the statutory Relationships and Health Education requirements.

This programme’s complimentary update policy ensures we are always using the most up to date teaching materials and that our teachers are well-supported.

## What do we teach when and who teaches it?

### Whole-school approach

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase including statutory Relationships and Health Education. The table below gives the learning theme of each of the six Puzzles (units) and these are taught across the school; the learning deepens and broadens every year.

| Term      | Puzzle (Unit)          | Content  |
|-----------|------------------------|--|
| Autumn 1: | Being Me in My World   | Includes understanding my own identity and how I fit well in the class, school and global community. Jigsaw Charter established.           |
| Autumn 2: | Celebrating Difference | Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and understanding  |
| Spring 1: | Dreams and Goals       | Includes goal-setting, aspirations, who do I want to become and what would I like to do for work and to contribute to society              |
| Spring 2: | Healthy Me             | Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices, sleep, nutrition, rest and exercise |
| Summer 1: | Relationships          | Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills, bereavement and loss      |
| Summer 2: | Changing Me            | Includes Relationships and Sex Education in the context of coping positively with change   |

At Huish Episcopi Primary School we allocate between 30-120 minutes to PSHE each week dependent upon age and topic.

Teachers deliver the weekly lessons to their own classes whenever possible.

## Relationships Education

What does the DfE statutory guidance on Relationships Education expect children to know by the time they leave primary school?

Relationships Education in primary schools will cover 'Families and people who care for me', 'Caring friendships', 'Respectful relationships', 'Online relationships', and 'Being safe'.

The expected outcomes for each of these elements can be found further on in this policy. The way the Jigsaw Programme covers these is explained in the mapping document: Jigsaw 3-11 and Statutory Relationships and Health Education.

It is important to explain that whilst the 'Relationships' unit in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Relationships Education, some of the outcomes are also taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. the 'Celebrating Difference' unit helps children appreciate that there are many types of family composition and that each is important to the children involved. This holistic approach ensures the learning is reinforced through the year and across the curriculum.

## Health Education

What does the DfE statutory guidance on Health Education expect children to know by the time they leave primary school?

Health Education in primary schools will cover 'Mental wellbeing', 'Internet safety and harms', 'Physical health and fitness', 'Healthy eating', 'Drugs, alcohol and tobacco', 'Health and prevention', 'Basic First Aid', 'Changing adolescent body'.

The expected outcomes for each of these elements can be found further on in this policy. The way the Jigsaw Programme covers these is explained in the mapping document: Jigsaw 3-11 and Statutory Relationships and Health Education.

It is important to explain that whilst the 'Healthy Me' unit in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Health Education, some of the outcomes are taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. emotional and mental health is nurtured through the 'Calm me' time and social skills are grown every lesson through the 'Connect us' activity.

Also, teaching children about puberty is now a statutory requirement which sits within the Health Education part of the DfE guidance within the 'Changing adolescent body' strand, and in Jigsaw this is taught as part of the 'Changing Me' unit.

Again, the mapping document transparently shows how the Jigsaw whole-school approach spirals the learning and meets all statutory requirements and more.

## Sex Education

The DfE Guidance recommends that all primary schools 'have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils'. However, 'Sex Education is not compulsory in primary schools'. (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p.23).

Schools are to determine the content of sex education at primary school. Sex education 'should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born'. (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p.23)

At Huish Episcopi Primary School, we believe children should understand the facts about human reproduction before they leave primary school so sex education will be taught in PSHE lessons as part of the 'Changing Me' unit in the summer term.

## Parents' right to request their child be withdrawn from Sex Education

"Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory Relationships and Sex Education" (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p.17).

At Huish Episcopi Primary School, puberty is taught as a statutory requirement of Health Education and covered by our Jigsaw PSHE Programme in the 'Changing Me' unit. We conclude that sex education refers to human reproduction, and therefore inform parents of their right to request their child be withdrawn from the PSHE lessons that explicitly teach this for example:

- Year 4, Lesson 2 (Having a baby)
- Year 5, Lesson 4 (Conception)
- Year 6, Lesson 3 (Conception, birth)

The school will inform parents of this right to withdraw their child from some or all of sex education lessons by a letter sent home in the spring term explaining what will be taught in the summer term 'Changing Me' unit. If parents wish to exercise this right, they will be invited to discuss the request with the Headteacher/PSHE subject leader to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum.

It should be noted that parents are not able to withdraw their child from the statutory national curriculum science lessons which require children to know the main external body parts, the human body as it grows from birth to old age (including puberty) and reproduction in some plants and animals.

## Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually. We will give serious consideration to any comments from parents about the PSHE (RSHE) programme and make a record of all such comments.

This policy will be reviewed annually during the summer term in preparation for the new school year. Parents and carers will receive a copy of the policy at the beginning of each autumn term.

## This policy will inform the school's Equalities Plan.

The DfE guidance states, 'Schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect. Schools must ensure they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010 under which sexual orientation and gender reassignment are amongst the protected characteristics.

At the point at which schools consider it appropriate to teach their pupils about LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), they should ensure this content is fully integrated into their programmes of study for this area of the curriculum rather than delivered as a stand-alone unit or lesson. Schools are

free to determine how they do this, and we expect all pupils to have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum.’ (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, DfE Guidance 2019, p.15)

At Huish Episcopi Primary School, we promote respect for all and value every individual child. We also respect the right of our children, their families and our staff, to hold beliefs, religious or otherwise, and understand that sometimes these may be in tension with our approach to some aspects of Relationships, Health and Sex Education.

For further explanation as to how we approach LGBT relationships in the PSHE (RSHE) Programme please see: ‘Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ relationships?’

Jigsaw PSHE supplementary documents needed to explain this policy:

- Jigsaw 3-11 and statutory Relationships and Health Education (mapping document) [jigsaw-3-11-and-rshe-overview-map.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)
- Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBT+ relationships? [rshe-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-leaflet-2020.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)