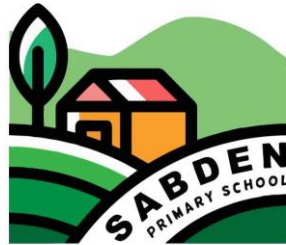


Sabden Primary School
Relationships and sex education policy (RSE)
September 2023



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1. Statement

At Sabden Primary School, good relationships are fundamental to our ethos. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is lifelong learning about relationships, emotions, looking after ourselves, different families, sex, sexuality and sexual health. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes. RSE has a key part to play in the personal, social, moral and spiritual development of young people.

The aims of relationship and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Teach children the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Develop confidence in talking about feelings and relationships
- Help children develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others
- Prepare children for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Create a positive culture around issues of relationships and sexuality
- Understand about the diverse range of different relationships, and families, and their importance for the care and support of children
- Behave responsibly within relationships
- Be able to recognise unsafe situations and be able to protect themselves and ask for help and support
- Understand the role of the media in forming attitudes
- Understand that offence can be caused by the use of sexual terms as an insult

2. Statutory Requirements

RSE is compulsory in primary schools as of September 2020 and primary schools are required to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum. Teaching of RSE follows the government document 'Statutory guidance for Relationships Education, Relationships, and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education', published by the Department for Education (DFE) in June 2019. This document outlines what schools should teach.

Sex education has not been made compulsory in primary schools, though the Department for Education 'continues to recommend that primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of pupils.'

3. Teaching and Learning

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

Across all Key Stages, children will be supported with developing the following skills:

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work

These skills are taught within the context of family life.

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual children
- Responding appropriately to children whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the sex education 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.

Children

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

4. Planning and Resources

At Sabden Primary School, we use the Medway Primary PSHE Education Scheme by the PSHE association. This is linked to our PSHE scheme. The document found in appendix 1 outlines the teaching for each unit, including key vocabulary, PSHE association links and Science National Curriculum links.

5. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from any aspect of relationships education or health education (which includes learning about the changing adolescent body and puberty.)

Parents will be able to withdraw their child from any aspects of sex education other than those which are part of the Science National Curriculum.

For those wishing to withdraw their child from the sex education unit, a written request must be sent to the headteacher either in writing or by emailing head@sabden.lancs.sch.uk . The headteacher will then contact you to discuss your request.

6. Inclusion

Teachers will be sensitive to and inclusive of all children and their families. Children with special educational needs will be supported as appropriate and advice will be sought from the SENCO, RSE lead and parents, if teachers have question or concerns prior to the teaching of RSE lessons.

7. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by Laura Murray, through ongoing training, planning and resource scrutiny, and discussion. Children's development in RSE is monitored by class teachers.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Policy Date: September 2023

Policy Review Date: September 2025