**Personal, Social and Health Education**

Statutory Changes

The Department for Education introduced compulsory Relationships Education for primary pupils and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) for secondary pupils from September 2020. It is also compulsory for all schools to teach Health Education. The subjects are intended to support pupils to be happy, healthy, safe and equipped for adult life.

Before teaching the content that has been made statutory, schools are required to consult parent and carers on their draft policy and intended curriculum. These views will be taken into account when finalising policy and provision.

The Department for Education’s publication and guidance can be found by accessing the following link.

[Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships_Education__Relationships_and_Sex_Education__RSE__and_Health_Education.pdf)

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What are Relationships Education and Health Education?**

Relationships Education includes anti-bullying, building and maintaining strong friendships, showing integrity and respect, the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch, and maintaining healthy relationships.

Health Education includes drugs awareness, first aid, ways to look after your physical and mental health, online safety and puberty.

The full list of content can be found in the appendices of the draft policy.

**Does my child have to participate in Relationships Education and Health Education?**

Relationships and health education are a compulsory part of the National Curriculum, which maintained primary schools must follow. Parents/Carers cannot withdraw their children from sessions on relationships and health.

**Does my child have to participate in Sex Education?**

Sex education is not compulsory within primary schools and parents/carers still have the right to withdraw their children from the lessons in the summer term in Year 6 on conception.

Some aspects of sex education, such as menstruation, fall under the statutory science curriculum. Parents cannot withdraw their child from these sessions.

Relevant National Curriculum content for Science can be found in the appendices if the draft PSHE curriculum.

**What will my child be taught in different year groups at Allesley Primary School?**

An overview of curriculum content by year group can be found in the appendices of the draft PSHE policy.

**How will my child be taught about Relationships Education, Health Education and Sex Education?**

* In a sensitive, age appropriate way.
* Through careful planning that will enable children to acquire knowledge and develop life skills and respectful attitudes and values.
* With sufficient time to cover topics with a strong emphasis on relationships, rights, responsibilities to others and communication skills.
* By relating topics to the children’s online and offline world.
* By being medically and factually correct.
* In a completely inclusive way – accepting of faith, culture and gender identity.
* By setting ground rules so that children feel confident to engage in discussions and ask questions.
* Through a rich variety of opportunities for active learning.
* By utilising a range of teaching and learning strategies, including discussion.
* By considering the attitudes and values of students and a range of other significant groups in society.

**Will my child learn about same sex relationships?**

The guidance outlines that pupils should be taught about the society in which they are growing up. Relationships Education is designed to foster respect for others and for difference. It should meet the needs of all pupils, whatever their developing sexuality or identity or family make up. Pupils will receive age-appropriate teaching about different types of relationships in the context of the law. Same sex couples and opposite sex couple have equality in law for marriage, consent to sexual activity and adoption. This understanding will be taught in a sensitive and age-appropriate way. For example, pupils will learn about different types of family, including those with same sex parents.

**Will faith or religious beliefs be considered when teaching the new content?**

The statutory content is designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships and to thrive in modern Britain. All subject matters will be taught sensitively - in an age appropriate way - taking religious beliefs into account. Techers are obliged to convey what the UK law states but within the framework that different people have different values and beliefs.

**What is Protective Behaviours?**

Protective behaviours is a safeguarding programme that teaches pupils to identify when they are not feeling safe and to take action and seek help when needed.

It is based on two core themes:

– we all have the right to feel safe all of the time

* we can talk with someone about anything, even if it feels small or awful

As part of this, pupils are taught the correct anatomical names for all parts of their body including genitalia. The vocabulary that will be used is penis, vulva, anus, bottom, breast, nipple.

Knowing the correct name for genitalia is incredibly important for safeguarding. It gives children who may be victims of inappropriate sexual behaviour the vocabulary to describe what has happened to them. Often, the embarrassment of talking about genitals is an adult issue. Using the correct name for genitals is not sex education; it is safeguarding.