

Spaxton CofE Primary School

‘Together we flourish and achieve’



Relationship, Sex and Health Education Policy

LINKS:

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POSTHOLDER RESPONSIBLE: Rachel Rood

MONITORED BY: Local Governance Committee

DATE RATIFIED BY GOVERNORS:

AUDIENCE: Staff, parents, students

REVIEW DATE: (annual)

Approved on behalf of Governing Body: _____ (Chair of Governors)

Approved on behalf of School: _____ (Head of School)

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Relationship, Sex and Health Education Policy

‘Together we flourish and achieve’

Inspired by: I Corinthians Ch 13 Vs 4-8

Those who belong to our school: protect, trust, have hope, persevere, show courage and respect.

Rational

Our school’s approach to Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) follows that of the CoFE Education Office in that it seeks to be faith-sensitive and inclusive. It is underpinned by two key Biblical passages:

*“So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them”
(Genesis 2:7)*

*“I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness”
(John 10:10)*

At Spaxton CoFE Primary School, everyone will be treated with dignity as all people who are made in the image of God and are loved equally by God.

All pupils have a right to an education which enables them to flourish and is set in a learning community where differences of lifestyle and opinion (within that which is permissible under UK law) are treated with dignity and respect; where bullying of all kinds is eliminated; and where they are free to be themselves and fulfil their potential without fear.

Our school seeks to ensure that the RSHE curriculum protects, informs and nurtures all pupils. It clearly differentiates between factual teaching (biology, medicine, the law, marriage, different types of families and the composition of society) and moral teaching about relationships and values, recognising that the distinction can be easily blurred and that there needs to be discernment about the manner in which this is taught. We teach RSHE within a moral (but not moralistic) framework.

RSHE in Spaxton CoFE Primary School is about what constitutes wellbeing and loving care for ourselves (physical and mental health education), how we show loving care for others (relationships education) and, when at an appropriate age and stage in life, how we show loving care to those we choose to be intimate with, including within marriage (sex education).

It is also about the spiritual and moral aspects of healthy, loving and nurturing relationships within a context of a Christian vision for the purpose of life.

Pupils will consider how to ensure that they treat themselves and others, at all times and in all contexts, with dignity and respect.

Defining Relationships Education

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me

- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst other structures) along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

Defining Sex Education

Sex education is about reproduction: learning how babies can be made and the emotions that people experience when they are ready for close intimacy.

The national curriculum for science includes content about human body parts, growth, puberty and gestation. Parents do not have the right to withdraw from this aspect of the curriculum.

At Spaxton, our year 6 programme contains some non-statutory content, which we feel is age appropriate and does an important job of helping to answer some of the questions that pupils are asking as they come to the transition period between Primary and Secondary school. In year 6 therefore, building on their previous knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science, the children will have some lessons focussing on consent in intimate adult relationships and how a baby is conceived and born.

Parents of year 6 children will be invited in to discuss the content of these lessons prior to them taking place.

The right to withdrawal from sex education

Parents do have the right to excuse their children from this aspect of RSHE and can do so by making concerns known and applying in writing to the Headteacher. The school will invite any enquiring parents or legal guardians to talk through concerns. An explanation of the rationale for RSHE will be given; an opportunity will be offered to review the intended materials and to consider the impact of not receiving sex education with peers.

Withdrawing a child from sex education remains a statutory right as a parent or legal guardian. If a pupil is excused from sex education it is the school's responsibility to ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal. There is no right to withdraw from relationships education or health education.

The school will document this process to ensure a record is kept.

Defining Health Education

Health education is learning about physical health and mental wellbeing so that pupils can make wise choices to ensure their own flourishing and the flourishing of others.¹

The RSHE Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out in Appendix 1. This will be reviewed and adapted as and when necessary. We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of pupils. Our curriculum content is based on resources provided by the Diocese of Bristol through the Goodness and Mercy website. Teachers will use the objectives and always take into account the needs and feelings of our pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

Primary sex education will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

For more information about our RSHE curriculum, see Appendix A

These are the requirements for RSHE from the Department for Education [click [here](#)]

How will RSHE be taught in our school?

RSHE will be delivered professionally and as an identifiable part of PSHE. It will be led, resourced and reported to parents in the same way as any other subject. There will be a planned programme delivered in a carefully sequenced way.

RSHE will be delivered in a way that affords dignity and shows respect to all who make up our diverse community. It will not discriminate against any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act and will be sensitive to the faith and beliefs of those in the wider school community. RSHE will seek to explain fairly the tenets and varying interpretations of religious communities on matters of sex and relationships and teach these viewpoints with respect. It will value the importance of faithfulness as the underpinning and backdrop for relationships. It will encourage pupils to develop the skills needed to disagree without being disagreeable, to appreciate the lived experience of other people and to live well together.

RSHE will seek to build resilience in our pupils to help them form healthy relationships, to keep themselves safe and resist the harmful influence of the excesses of media in all its forms.

RSHE will promote healthy resilient relationships set in the context of character and virtue development that sits within the schools Christian Vision and Values.

Values such as honesty, integrity, self-control, courage, humility, kindness, forgiveness, generosity and a sense of justice

¹ See *Mental Health and Wellbeing: Towards a Whole School Approach* (March 2018)

SEND

Pupils with SEND will have had the content made accessible to them by their class teacher. At Spaxton CofE Primary School, we provide high quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised to ensure accessibility.

Training

At Spaxton, RSHE is taught by confident trained staff and only some elements will be taught by outside agencies (such as First Aid trainers or School nurse). It is important that pupils have confidence in the teacher and that a 'safe space' is created where pupils feel confident and can ask age-appropriate questions.²

All staff teaching this sensitive and important subject will have received training. This training will be regularly reviewed and revisited.

Monitoring and evaluating

This will follow the same monitoring and evaluation processes used throughout the school for other subjects i.e. pupil interviews, work reviews, learning walks etc.

Policy Review

This policy has been adapted from the Diocese of Bristol RSHE policy and has been produced in consultation with staff, parents, Governors and pupils.

It has been produced in consultation with parents and will be reviewed in consultation with parents. It must, however, be recognised that the law specifies that what is taught and how it is taught is ultimately a decision for the school.

This policy should be read in conjunction with The Equalities Act 2010

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance>

²It does not need to be the class teacher or tutor who teaches Relationships [and Sex] Education. It is best delivered by teachers who are skilled and confident at managing sensitive issues and are good at handling class discussion. See research from Bristol University about secondary RSE
<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/7/5/e014791>

Appendix A: Progression Outcomes Statements

Relationship Education (Adapted from the Goodness and Mercy scheme of work)		
Strand	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can talk about the people who care for them and give them love, and the things that they do to share that care. • Pupils can talk about the ways that they might show that they enjoy being in their families. • Pupils can show that they understand that different people have different kinds of families. • Pupils can talk about what is the same across all families. • Pupils can tell you who they might go to for help if they feel unsafe or unhappy in their family. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain that caring relationships are a key feature of positive family life and can describe the different ways in which people care for one another. • Pupils can discuss and evaluate the different ways that they can show appreciation to those who care for them. • Pupils can explain why it is important to recognise and give respect, that there are different types of family structure (including single parents, same-sex parents, step-parents, blended families, foster parents, multi-generational families). • Pupils can demonstrate that they recognise shared characteristics of healthy family life, (commitment, care, spending time together, being there for each other in times of difficulty etc). • Pupils can explain how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and can show that they know how to seek help or advice.
Friendship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can describe what a good friend is like. • Pupils can talk about how someone can show kindness to someone who is a friend in a way that they will like. • Pupils can describe how to recognise if someone is lonely; can talk about ways in which people can show kindness to someone who is not their friend and try to include them in a game or activity. • Pupils can talk about what you can do if you fall out with your friend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can describe what makes a good friendship, including trust, truth, respect, loyalty, kindness, generosity and shared interests. They can explain why it is important to welcome people who others might leave out and to make efforts to understand and enjoy people who are different to them. • Pupils can talk about the ways in which friends can cope when there are fallings-out and can describe how someone can make peace again and not resort to violence. • Pupils can give examples of how someone can think carefully of the needs and preferences of the other person in their friendship or family and how they might make them happy and listen to their choices. • Pupils can describe what it means to have high expectations in friendships and family, and list some of the behaviours that should never be acceptable.

Relationships and Marriage	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain that marriage is a formal and legal commitment which is intended to be lifelong. • Pupils will be able to give examples of positive long-term relationships that bring joy and meaning to those involved. • Pupils can explain the benefits of strong life-long relationships: they are good for people, through relationships people have fun, they learn who they are, how to be less selfish, how to think of others and learn about forgiveness. • Pupils can explain the significance of special ceremonies and rituals of promises that mark marriage (in the Christian tradition and at least one other faith tradition or worldview). (RE)
Anti-bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can describe what bullying is, the different kinds of bullying and why it is hurtful. • Pupils can talk about where to go for help if they are bullied. • Pupils can talk about why it is good to be kind to people. • Pupils can talk about how you might support someone who has been hurt because someone has been unkind to them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can show understanding about the different types of bullying that people can encounter. • Pupils can describe how to be safe on the internet and how to avoid cyberbullies and cyberbullying. • Pupils can explain what stereotyping is and how bullying can be damaging for someone. • Pupils can explain how people can keep themselves safe and ask for help when bullied. • Pupils can describe how not to be a bystander when someone else is bullied. • Pupils can explain how to report bullying and support someone who has suffered unkindness.
Making good boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can talk about how their bodies belong to them, are incredibly special and should be protected. • Pupils can identify what is safe and unsafe touching. • Pupils can describe why it is wrong to keep bad secrets and that people should not ask us to do that. • Pupils will be able to explain how someone can tell a trusted adult if they feel unsafe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain what right and wrong touching is and can show an understanding of what is appropriate behaviour in private and in public. • Pupils can explain what a bad secret is like and how to get help.
Key theology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain that most Christians believe that God loves people, that God has always loved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain Christian (and other faiths') beliefs in an eternal Love, that

	<p>them as an individual and always will.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can talk about why other people are special (and how Christians believe that they are created and loved by God). • Pupils can talk about what the Christian belief in creation means for how people should value and protect themselves and treat other people. • Pupils can give examples of people doing things that hurt others. They can talk about how humans often let themselves down. • They can describe simply what the word forgiveness means and talk about fresh starts. • Pupils can talk about why it is good to keep friends and the importance of sticking by people and supporting them unless they really hurt us. 	<p>cannot be broken, that pre-existed the world and carries on after death.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can link this to the Christian idea of the Trinity and explain what difference it will make to Christians' lives if they believe they have a relationship with this God of eternal love. • Pupils can explain that Christians believe in the sacredness and worth of every person and can describe how that might affect how Christians regard and protect themselves and others. • Pupils can explain the Christian belief in the Fall and talk about how all people can make mistakes and treat others badly. • Pupils can explore the consequences of bad behaviour and explain the Christian ideas about repentance, forgiveness reconciliation and peace. • Pupils can explain what faithfulness and commitment means to family, friends, relationships and members of their community. They can explain why faithfulness is important for building security, trust and happiness, and what behaviours might endanger faithfulness.
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Health Education (Adapted from the Goodness and Mercy scheme of work)		
Strand	KS1 outcomes	KS2 outcomes
Sleep, rest and hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can describe how to look after themselves. • Pupils can show someone how people can clean their teeth and talk about how people can help themselves to have good sleep (Science) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain why it is important to look after themselves. • Pupils can demonstrate how to look after their teeth and their skin in the sun; can explain why this is important and what happens if people do not do this. • Pupils can talk about how to practise personal hygiene and can explain why it can be anti-social not to do so. • Pupils can explain why good sleep and rest are important and what the effects of not getting enough sleep can be.
Healthy eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can identify and list many healthy and less healthy foods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can plan a healthy diet and describe the dangers of an unhealthy one.

Spiritual practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils will have observed/ experienced/participated in some calming spiritual time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain why having some sort of spiritual practice may improve physical, emotional and mental health.
Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can name and talk about different kinds of exercise. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can describe different kinds of exercise, the impact on people's bodies and explain why exercise is good for your health.
Mental health, wellbeing and emotional literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can talk about their emotions, (such as when they are happy, sad, angry or afraid) and understand when those emotions are helpful. • Pupils can talk about how taking exercise, eating healthily, spending time outdoors and praying or meditating can be good for their feelings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can talk about how people can express their emotions such as anger and fear. Pupils can explain why feelings can affect the way people behave. Pupils can describe strategies to manage feelings so that they do not have a negative impact on others. • Pupils can understand that keeping healthy physically and spiritually will help their mental health. Pupils can identify some of the worries and concerns that people might feel moving to a new school. Pupils can identify ways in which someone can positively manage such a move.
Screen time and screen-safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can list some of the ways that screens improve their lives. • Pupils can list some rules about the limits for using screens that can keep people healthy. • Pupils can identify how people use 'masks' online to be nasty and who to ask for help. • Pupils can list what information should or should not be shared. <p>(Safeguarding)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain how to make wise choices online and why limiting screen time is a good idea. • Pupils can show understanding of the different ways that people use the internet for bad purposes and outline how to avoid harm.
Alcohol, smoking and drugs	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain the facts and laws surrounding the use of alcohol, smoking and drugs. (Citizenship) • Pupils show understanding of the risks and effects of legal drugs common to everyday life (e.g. cigarettes, e-cigarettes/ vaping, alcohol and medicines) and their impact on health; can recognise that drug use can become a habit which can be difficult to break. • Pupils can talk about why people choose to use or not use drugs (including nicotine, alcohol and medicines). • Pupils can talk about the organisations that can support people around alcohol, tobacco or other drug use; know people they can talk to if they have concerns.

First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils can talk about what to do if there is an accident and someone is hurt, how to get help in an emergency (how to dial 999 and what to say). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils can explain how to make an emergency call and demonstrate how to apply basic First Aid (e.g. dealing with common injuries including head injuries).
Puberty	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils can talk about puberty and how it affects girls and boys, particularly the emotional and physical changes including menstruation; about key facts about the menstrual cycle, menstrual wellbeing and wet dreams. (Science) Pupils can identify the external genitalia and internal reproductive organs in males and females and explain how the process of puberty relates to human reproduction. (Science)
Key theology for Church of England / Methodist schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils will be able to show an understanding of key Christian teachings about how they are of great value and worth: "You are fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139) and "God saw that it was very good" (Genesis 1). Pupils can make a link between these teachings and how people can regard, celebrate and protect their bodies, minds and souls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils will be able to explain the Christian belief about how humans are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27); how it may be interpreted and lived out in people's regard for themselves and enjoyment of living in their bodies. Pupils will be able to explain the Christian concept of stewardship: that humans have been given a gift that they should take care of and how that might affect the way that Christians look after their own bodies and minds.

Sex Education (Adapted from the Goodness and Mercy scheme of work)		
Topic		Key Stage 2 outcomes
Status:		NON-MANDATORY
Sex education has frequent overlap with relationships education and they should not be seen as distinct. Sex education also overlaps with health education and science so connections should be made.		
The right to withdraw	At Key Stage 1 there is no sex education.	<p>At Key Stage 2 each school will decide for themselves whether they think it is appropriate to teach any elements of sex education in their context.</p> <p>Parents have the right to withdraw their child.</p>
Sexual intercourse		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils can describe, using accurate vocabulary, what happens between a man and woman that has the possibility of resulting in a baby.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can suggest how close intimate relationships might affect people physically, emotionally and spiritually. • Pupils can discuss how people choose to have babies and can suggest criteria for when it might be a sensible time. • Pupils can explain why some people argue that the best time for such closeness is within a long-term, faithful and committed relationships such as marriage. • Pupils can talk about how some people don't choose this option and prefer to not have sexual intercourse with anyone and that this is another positive choice.
Sex and the Law		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can show that they know that in the UK it is unlawful to have sex until you are 16. (Law, British Values, Citizenship)
Gestation , pregnancy , birth and parenthood		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain what happens at conception and are able to explain the journey from pregnancy to birth. (Science) • Pupils can talk about why having a baby is wonderful but a huge responsibility.
Key theology		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils can explain that most Christians believe that God loves all people with a love that is stronger and purer than the love of a husband, wife or partner; that Christians believe (as do people of other faiths) that love never dies or fails. • Pupils can explain that most Christians believe that humans are beautifully created; can explain that this means in a one-to-one relationship a person can practice enjoying the wonderful creation of another human and get to carefully observe and celebrate another person over time. • Pupils can explain that Christians believe that humans are fallen – they can make mistakes and hurt people on purpose or unintentionally. • Pupils can explain how the Christian idea of forgiveness can help to keep intimate relationships going over time. • Pupils can explain why the Christian belief in the faithfulness of God is a model for human relationships and why the quality of faithfulness may help keep marriages and other long-term committed relationships going over time.