



Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Article 3 - The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all actions concerning children.

Article 24 - Every child has the right to the best possible health care.

Article 28 – Every child has a right to an education.

Nova Primary School Governor Information	
Model Policy	Yes
Local Changes	
Customisation*	
Originally Adopted	Spring 2010
Last Review Date	Autumn 2016
Next Review Date	Autumn 2017
* additions made to policy (eg local detail) but not a change to any policy structure	

History of most recent Policy changes – Must be completed

Date	Page	Change	Origin of Change e.g. TU request, change in legislation
27.02.13	1	Addition of children's rights	
26.01.15		General update	New National and school curriculum Change of approach and resources
13.3.15		Name updated to 'Relationships and Sex Education'	LA state emphasis should be on relationships before sex

1 Location and Dissemination

A copy of this policy can always reliably be found in The Safeguarding and Policy files in the Headteacher's office and on the teachers' network.

This document has been disseminated to:

- Staff
- Governors
- parents

via the school website and at a specially organised RSE meeting that takes place annually, before term 5

2 Local and National Guidance

This policy has been written in consultation with the following guidance:

- Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfE 0116/2000)
- QCA PSHE Curriculum Framework for Schools 2000
- National Curriculum September 2013
- National Healthy Schools Standards 2006
- Ofsted (2002) Sex and Relationships. Office for Standards in Education, London.
- Social Exclusion Unit (1999) Teenage Pregnancy Strategy. Social Exclusion Unit, London.
- Laying the Foundations-National Children's Bureau 2006

3. Purpose

Clarify the legal requirement and responsibilities of the school.

Clarify the schools approach to sex and relationships education (RSE) for all staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community.

Give guidance on developing and implementing and monitoring the RSE education programme.

Provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school RSE programme

Reinforce the role of the schools in contributing to local and national strategies.

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, parents/carers, governors and outside agencies working within the school.

4. Why Use RSE?

Legal obligations

Maintained primary schools in England and Wales have a legal responsibility to provide a 'sex education' programme. They also have a responsibility to keep an up to date written statement of the policy they choose to adopt and this must be available to parents. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from 'sex education' lessons which fall outside those aspects covered in the National Curriculum Science.

The needs of young people and the role of schools

Rates of teenage pregnancy, abortion and sexually transmitted infection in the UK are among the highest of all European countries. The Government has developed a comprehensive strategy to change this situation and RSE for pupils in both primary and secondary schools is seen, alongside other initiatives, as a key element. Our schools approach to RSE is in line with the Government's strategy and guidance given to schools in DfE'S 'Sex and Relationship Guidance' 2000.

The overall aims of the school and National curriculum are:

1. To provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and to achieve.
2. To promote pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The DfES 'Sex and Relationship Guidance' (2000) recommends that 'Effective sex and relationship education is essential if young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives'. The school has a key role, in partnership with parents/carers, in providing RSE.

Research has shown that young people who feel good about themselves, and are knowledgeable and confident about relationships and sex, are more likely to be more discerning and to have fulfilling relationships.

'Research demonstrates that good, comprehensive sex and relationship education does not make young people more likely to enter into sexual activity. Indeed it can help them learn the reasons for, and the benefits to be gained from, delaying such activity'.

DfE's 'Sex and Relationship Guidance', 2000.

Children are exposed more and more to information about sex and relationships. It is our role to help them make sense of this- both emotionally AND biologically.

5. Aims and Objectives

The overall aims of the RSE programme are to provide accurate information about, and understanding of, RSE issues. RSE aims to equip all pupils with accurate, unbiased knowledge about sex and relationships and give pupils the opportunity to acquire life skills that will help them make good use of this knowledge. It will also give pupils opportunities to explore and respect their own and others' opinions, attitudes and values to help pupils develop their own, individual moral framework.

The objectives of Relationship and Sex Education are:

- To provide the knowledge and information to which all pupils are entitled
- To clarify/reinforce existing knowledge
- To raise pupils' self esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others;
- To help pupils understand their sexual feelings and behaviour, so they can lead fulfilling and enjoyable lives;
- To help pupils' develop skills (language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) and make the most of their abilities.
- To provide the confidence to be participating members of society and to value themselves and others;
- To help gain access to information and support
- To develop skills for a healthier, safer lifestyle
- To understand the concept of diversity in terms of families, relationships and sexuality
- To develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media
- To respect and care for their bodies
- To be prepared for puberty and adulthood

6. Content and Delivery

At Nova Primary, we recognise that RSE should be given a high priority within the curriculum. As part of our new Nova Curriculum children spend the whole of term 5 exploring a biological 'Line of Enquiry' and will complete an in depth RSE study as part of this. This whole school approach gives scope for cross-phase or single sex

lessons. Content will be drawn from the National Curriculum for Science and Laying the Foundations. Children will also explore many issues related to RSE as part of the wider curriculum and their PSHE lessons throughout the year.

7. Methodology and Resources

The teaching of RSE will have clear learning objectives, but be taught in such a way that all children can access them. This may differ between classes and even individuals and will require all teachers to be sensitive, reflective and responsive to these needs. To aid quality-first teaching, lesson plans from 'Laying the Foundations' are available to be adapted and used as necessary. The DVD and teacher's guides for the updated 'Living and Growing' Series will also be used to support the teaching of RSE. All resources will be available for parents to view, at a planned meeting or on request.

8. Staff Training

All staff are provided training and support to help them deliver effective Relationships and Sex Education and respond to situations with consistency and sensitivity, taking account of religious, social and cultural issues. Specific training from the Local Authority RSE Consultant is given.

9. Outside Agencies

Outside agencies may at times be used to compliment the RSE programme following the LA guidelines for 'Working with Visitors in Schools'.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of our RSE Education programme will be carried out on a regular basis by the PSHE Leader.

11. Parents

We will share responsibility for the education of pupils, with parents, who will be kept informed and involved through class newsletters, awareness raising opportunities and individual discussions when appropriate.

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from dedicated 'sex education' lessons. However we would encourage parents to discuss this fully with the PSHE Co-coordinator if concerned. They do not have a right to withdraw their children from those aspects of RSE that are taught in National Curriculum Science or where RSE issues arise incidentally in other subject areas.