



Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

The Spire Federation – East Wold & North Cockerington CE Primary Schools

Last reviewed:	May 2024
Next review due by:	May 2025

Vision

Our small school community welcomes everyone. We aim to achieve this by providing a challenging and supportive learning environment, where each one of us can flourish. With our foundation of Christian values, we strive for excellence in all that we do. We seek to empower our community to be excited about the future.

Empowering all to flourish and succeed.

"I can do all this through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

This policy has been developed in consultation with all stakeholders, including governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers.

1. **A Definition of Relationships, Sex and Health Education for Church Schools**

All Church of England and Methodist schools within the Diocese of Lincoln are statutorily required to teach Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education. Within the context of Christian beliefs about human dignity (e.g. Genesis 1:26-27) and the need to love your neighbour as you love yourself (e.g. Mark 12:30-31), RSHE enables pupils to flourish and gain every opportunity to live fulfilled lives.

RSHE is about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, healthy relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. It is also about the spiritual and moral aspects of relationships within a context of a Christian vision for the purpose of life. Through RSHE in church schools, all pupils will have the chance to learn about how to ensure that they treat themselves and others, at all times and in all contexts, with dignity and respect.

Relationships Education is learning about how to:

- be appreciative of existing relationships
- to form new healthy relationships
- to enjoy strong positive, non-exploitative, caring relationships online and in person.

This will particularly reference family relationships including marriage, friendships and relationships with peers and adults.

Sex Education in primary schools is not mandatory; however, the National Curriculum for Science in primary schools includes content about human body parts, growth, puberty and reproduction. **Parents/guardians do not have the right to withdraw from this aspect of the curriculum.**

In The Spire Federation we have decided that it is important to include sex education (see Appendix 1 – green text) to protect and prepare the children in our community. Parents/carers do have the right to excuse their children from this aspect of Sex Education (see below for more information).

2. Statutory Requirements

As a local authority maintained church school, we are statutorily required to provide Relationships Education to all pupils under section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. We are not required to provide Sex Education, but we are required to teach elements of sex education contained within the Primary Science curriculum.

In The Spire Federation we have decided that it is important to include sex education to protect and prepare the children in our community.

In teaching RSHE, we have regard to the guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in in [section 403 of the Education Act 1996](#) and the Equality Act 2010.

At The Spire Federation, we teach RSHE as set out in this policy.

3. RSHE Curriculum

Our RSHE curriculum has been developed in consultation with various stakeholders, including governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers and takes into account the context of the school and its pupils. We follow the LCP PSHE and Citizenship Scheme of Work and use some additional resources as detailed in Appendix 1.

The topics covered include:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships and respectful relationships
- Internet safety, safe online relationships and the risks of online relationships
- Being Safe
- Mental wellbeing
- Basic first aid, physical health and fitness, health and fitness, healthy eating, risks to health, e.g. drugs, alcohol, tobacco]
- Changing adolescent body

This RSHE curriculum has been planned in the context of our broader curriculum intent, and the delivery of this part of the curriculum is one of the ways in which we seek to realise our overarching distinctively Christian vision. It reflects core Christian

teachings about human beings and healthy relationships, including the belief that all are made in the image of God, are loved by God and are therefore to be treated with dignity and respect. This enables our pupils to understand that they should value the gift of themselves and recognise and respect this gift of uniqueness in others by seeking out healthy relationships. It will also help them understand a range of Christian views on the importance of long-term relationships as building blocks for family stability.

4. Delivery of RSHE

RSHE is taught as part of the broader PSHE curriculum. Biological aspects of RSHE are taught within the Primary Science Curriculum and some elements of RSE may be taught within the RE curriculum, particular with relation to a range of views on relationships from religions and worldviews. Throughout the delivery of the curriculum it is important to ensure young people understand the range of words that may be used, and the correct vocabulary, for parts of the body. Teaching is delivered by class teachers; some elements of RSHE education are delivered by a trained health professional. The school uses a range of resources to deliver effective RSHE and all staff involved in delivering RSHE receive appropriate training and support. Pupil progress and attainment in RSHE will be monitored annually.

All RSHE is delivered with an understanding that pupils and staff may be personally engaged in different structures of support and familial relationships, including single parent families, LGBTQ families, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers, young carers, etc. The RSHE curriculum has been carefully designed to ensure that no person feels stigmatised; this is set within the context of the biblical teaching that all human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-7) and that Christians are called to respect and honour everyone (e.g. 1 Peter 2:17).

For more information about the delivery of RSHE, please contact the RSHE curriculum leader via enquiries@north-cockerington.lincs.sch.uk.

5. Parental Right to Withdraw from Sex Education

Parents/guardians do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education. Elements of Sex Education are included in the Primary Science Curriculum and parents/guardians do not have the right to withdraw their children from the Science Curriculum.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-science elements of Sex Education within RSHE. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing to the head teacher. We will invite you to talk through your concerns, review the materials we use and explain our rationale. Withdrawing your child from Sex Education remains a statutory right as a parent or legal guardian.

6. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Board

The governing board has delegated the approval/review of this policy to the Executive Headteacher.

The Executive Headteacher & Subject Lead

The Executive Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school working with the PSHE lead. This includes ensuring resources and materials are shared with parents and carers, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of RSE.

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents/carers wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory 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 Executive Headteacher.

Class teachers of those responsible for teaching RSE in our school.

7. Monitoring

The subject lead undertakes monitoring throughout the year and provides evidence of monitoring to the Executive Headteacher. The Executive Headteacher will monitor the implementation of this policy at least annually. Governors monitor coverage of National Curriculum subjects.

Appendix 1

RSHE Additional Resources

We follow the LCP PSHE and Citizenship Scheme of Work and use some additional resources as detailed below.

LCP File	Lesson	Additional Resources Used
EYFS & KS1 P11	Relationships at home and in the community Discuss types of families	The Family Book* And Tango Makes Three (Story Book)*
KS2 Part 1 P125	Feelings and relationships: 9 - Diversity Similarities and differences including sexuality	The Other Ark (Story Book)*
KS2 Part 1 P126	Feelings and relationships : 10 – Supporting Diversity LGBT	King & King (Story Book)*
KS2 Part 1 P138	Feelings and relationships: 11 – Sex, love & relationships Note: This lesson is taught after Growing Up – Adolescence	Lesson 11 plus Living & Growing DVD Programme 5 & 6
KS2 Part 1 P180	Growing Up -Adolescence	Lesson 10 plus Living & Growing DVD Programme 4 – Changes Programme 7 – Girl Talk Programme 8 – Boy Talk
KS2 Part 1 P183	Appropriate & Inappropriate Touching	Lesson 11 – Plus NSPCC resources https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/schools/pants-teaching

*Additional age appropriate story books may be purchased