



Local Procedure/Protocol

School/Home Name:	Hartwell School
Local Procedure/Protocol Title:	Relationships and Sex Education Protocol
Linked to Group Policy Title & Code:	Relationships and Sex Education Policy
Date Reviewed:	September 2023
Next Update Due:	September 2024
Procedure/Protocol Lead:	Jo Lockhart
Procedure/Protocol Sponsor:	Hayley Dorian – School Development Lead

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Witherslack Group is committed to the fair treatment of all in line with the Equality Act 2010. An equality impact assessment has been completed on this policy to ensure that it can be implemented consistently regardless of any protected characteristics and all will be treated with dignity and respect.

ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL, GOVERNANCE (ESG) STATEMENT

Witherslack Group is committed to responsible business practices in the areas of: Environmental Stewardship, Social Responsibility, Governance, Ethics & Compliance. An ESG impact assessment has been completed on this procedure/protocol to ensure it can be implemented successfully without adverse implications on our Group goals.

To ensure that this procedure/protocol is relevant and up to date, comments and suggestions for additions or amendments are sought from users of this document. To contribute towards the process of review, please email the named policy lead.

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1. RATIONALE AND CONSULTATION

- 1.1 This protocol sets out the framework for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at Hartwell School providing clarity on how our RSE curriculum is informed, organised and delivered. This links directly to the Witherslack Group Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy which is a statutory requirement.
- 1.2 At Hartwell School we continue to be committed to liaising with parents and carers about all aspects of their child's education. As such, we understand the importance of the role of parents and carers in the development of their child's understanding about relationships, sex and health. From September 2020, the law required schools to consult with parents and carers on their approach to RSE.
- 1.3 At Hartwell School we will notify parents/carers each September when the policy and protocol have been reviewed, updated and uploaded to the school website and we will provide a window of opportunity for all parents and carers to respond with their views. The final version of the policy and protocol will then be available on the school website for reference.
- 1.4 We will provide additional opportunities for parents/carers to be informed and ask questions about the delivery and content of the RSE curriculum by providing:
 - Notification of when RSE topics are to be taught and a summary of the content to be covered
 - Opportunities to view and discuss examples of RSE teaching and learning resources and curriculum materials, including those related to the teaching of sensitive topics
 - Information about parents' right to withdraw their child from non-statutory elements of RSE
- 1.5 Parents/carers of new pupils will be provided with all of the above information at the point of admission, regardless of the time of year they join the school. Parents/carers will be provided with opportunities to find out about the progress of their children in RSE related topics; for example, as part of Annual Reviews of EHCPs, during parents' evenings and within termly progress reports.
- 1.6 We understand that parents and carers may have concerns about some aspects of RSE and all views will be listened to and carefully considered. However, the school will ultimately make the final decision about what is to be taught and when, and this will be informed by our statutory obligations as well as parental views and the needs of our pupils.

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1.7 In 2023, the DfE announced the formation of an independent expert advisory panel who will advise on the review of the relationships, sex and health education statutory curriculum (taught as part of PSHE and Citizenship at Hartwell School School). The DfE state this will provide an opportunity to consider whether the guidance covers the right topics and will offer further clarity on how to teach sensitive subjects and engage parents positively. The review will be completed by the end of 2023, and any subsequent updates will be reflected in this protocol. In the meantime, Hartwell School has carried out a consultation process which has included discussion with pupils as part of a pupil focus group (School Council) and inviting parents/carers to complete a questionnaire.

1.8 This policy was reviewed and developed in response to the following guidance:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE, 2023)
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (DfE, 2019)
- 16-19 Study Programmes Guidance (DfE/ESFA, 2019)
- The Independent School Standards Guidance for independent schools (DfE, 2019)
- Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges (Ofsted, 2021)
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges (DfE, 2021)
- Preventing and tackling bullying (DfE, 2017)
- Three steps to RSHE success (Sex Education Forum, 2021)
- Principles of good RSE (Sex Education Forum, 2017)
- Sexting in Schools and Colleges: Responding to incidents and safeguarding young people (UKCCIS, 2016)
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years (DfE, 2015)
- Equality Act 2010: advice for schools (DfE, 2014)
- National Curriculum in England – Key Stages 1-4 (DfE, 2014)

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Within the parameters of this protocol, the following definitions apply:

- **PSHE:** Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education.
- **RSHE:** Relationships, sex education and health education
- **Health education:** Health education is learning about physical health and mental wellbeing
- **Relationships education:** Relationships education is learning about the physical, social, legal, and emotional aspects of human relationships including friendships, family life and relationships with other children and adults
- **RSE:** Relationships and sex education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health
- **Sex education:** Sex education is learning about reproduction, pregnancy and birth, preventing pregnancy and STIs

3. AIMS AND INTENT

3.1 At Hartwell School our over-arching aims for RSE are as follows:

- To deliver high-quality and age-appropriate RSE lessons as part of our overall planned school curriculum and ethos
- To fulfil our legal obligations related to RSE
- To take account of parental views and carry out effective consultation
- To ensure pupils are provided with accurate information from reliable sources
- To ensure pupils know how to keep themselves safe and how to seek help if needed
- To use a range of appropriate resources matched to the strengths and needs of individual pupils
- To provide pupils with opportunities to engage positively in sensitive discussions and enable them to have the confidence to ask questions to help address any misconceptions

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- To encourage pupils to remember what they learn to support their ongoing preparation for the future

3.2 In order to achieve our aims, we will plan and teach the RSE content set out by the DfE and provided in **Appendix 1** of this policy.

4. LEGAL OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

4.1 The Relationships, Sex and Health Education Regulations (2019) made under the Children and Social Work Act (2017) brought some compulsory changes into effect in all schools from September 2020. Relationships and Health Education are now compulsory for all pupils receiving primary and secondary education. It is also compulsory for schools to provide Sex Education to all pupils receiving secondary education.

4.2 It is important to note that primary schools have the option to decide whether or not pupils are taught 'Sex Education'. In order to support pupils' ongoing emotional and physical development effectively, we will offer this for our primary-aged pupils at (name of school), where the teaching and learning is appropriate for the age and maturity of each pupil. However, the vast majority of what is taught as part of 'Sex Education' for our primary-aged pupils, is already covered as part of the National Curriculum for Science or as part of Health Education in PSHE.

4.3 RSE is an important part of our curriculum and it is hoped that all pupils will participate in all aspects of these lessons. However, the school acknowledges the rights of parents/carers as described below:

- From September 2020, parents of both primary and secondary-aged pupils will not be able to withdraw their children from any aspect of Relationships Education or Health Education (which includes learning about the changing adolescent body, puberty and developing and nurturing healthy friendships and relationships).
- Parents of both primary and secondary-aged pupils will not be able to withdraw their child from any aspect of the National Curriculum for Science (which includes subject content such as {PRIMARY} the names of external body parts, the human body as it grows from birth to old age, and reproduction/off-spring in some plants and animals AND {SECONDARY} reproduction in humans and plants, hormones in reproduction, hormone and non-hormone methods of contraception communicable diseases including sexually transmitted infections in humans).
- Parents will be able to withdraw their child (following discussion with the school and providing notification to the Headteacher in writing) from any or all aspects of Sex Education (other than those provided as part of the Science curriculum) up to and until three terms before the age of 16.
- In line with the statutory guidance, where pupils are withdrawn from Sex Education, we will keep a record of this (including discussions/requests from parents/carers) and we will ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal.
- In line with the statutory guidance, if any secondary-aged pupil wishes to receive Sex Education rather than be withdrawn, we will make arrangements to provide the pupil with Sex Education during one of the three terms before the age of 16.
- At Post 16, we will continue to offer Sex Education to our pupils as part of their non-qualification activities linked to the development of character, broader skills, attitudes and confidence and in preparation for transition to life beyond school. Parents/carers will not have the right to withdraw pupils from this.

4.4 For further clarity, please see Appendix 2 of this protocol for an overview of the compulsory aspects of RSE at the different stages of education as set out by the DfE.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 At Hartwell School the Headteacher, assumes overall responsibility for ensuring that the organisation and delivery of RSE lessons are carried out by staff who have an appropriate level of expertise and knowledge and that all pupils make progress in achieving the expected outcomes. The Headteacher is also responsible for

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managing any requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory sex education lessons and organising alternative appropriate education.

- 5.2 The PSHE and Citizenship Lead, is responsible for ensuring that RSE is well planned and sequenced, both as part of an overall long-term plan and specific schemes of work. With the support of the Senior Leadership Team, the PSHE and Citizenship Lead is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently well across the school and is suitably resourced. This may include liaising with and supporting other staff members/external professionals who deliver some/all of the RSE lessons at our school. The PSHE/Citizenship Lead is expected to work closely with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) as well as colleagues in related curriculum areas to ensure the curriculum is suitable for individual pupils and complements content covered in National Curriculum subjects.
- 5.3 Teachers who are given responsibility for delivering RSE lessons must recognise the importance of RSE. They must seek support, advice and additional professional development wherever necessary to ensure that teaching continues to be well-prepared and of a high standard at all times.
- 5.4 The governance structure provided by Witherslack Group will ensure that the school complies with the provisions of the RSE policy and local protocol and that legal obligations related to RSE are fulfilled.

6. TRAINING AND CPD

6.1

At Hartwell School we recognise the importance of ensuring teachers of RSE have an appropriate level of expertise and knowledge. This is achieved through internal and external training (eg. from the Sex Education Forum), attendance at Witherslack Group PSHE and Citizenship Network Meetings and support from the school’s PSHE and Citizenship Lead and DSL.

7. IMPLEMENTATION (ORGANISATION AND DELIVERY)

7.1 At Hartwell School RSE is carefully planned and delivered primarily through our PSHE and Citizenship curriculum. PSHE/Citizenship lessons are given a high priority and are timetabled every week for all Key Stages. Some aspects of RSE feature across several topics, yet discrete RSE topics are also planned and delivered, giving full consideration to the timing of this as related to the age and emotional maturity of our pupils. Additional teaching may also take place within assemblies, Science lessons, RE lessons and other areas of the curriculum, but these will be part of our carefully planned approach to RSE and not simply an ‘add-on’. Please see Appendix 3 of this policy for an overview of RSE within our curriculum.

7.2 Through effective organisation and delivery of RSE, we ensure that:

- RSE is delivered in a non-judgemental, age-appropriate, factual and inclusive way that allows pupils to ask questions in a safe environment. Approaches such as distancing techniques and use of classroom question boxes (encouraging pupils to use their names) will allow pupils to raise issues or ask questions which they may find embarrassing.
- Teachers ensure that pupils’ views are listened to and will encourage them to ask questions and engage in discussion. Ground rules are developed and shared with pupils as part of best practice. Ground rules help to ensure discussions and personal questions/comments are managed appropriately and sensitively, along with those questions which are more challenging.
- Core knowledge is sectioned into units of a manageable size.
- Taught content provides opportunities to revisit previous content and allows clear progression. Topics and lessons are carefully sequenced, within a planned scheme of work, and where relevant are linked to other areas of the curriculum.

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- Teaching includes sufficient and well-chosen opportunities and contexts for pupils to embed new knowledge so that it can be used confidently in real-life situations.
- The curriculum proactively addresses issues in a timely way in line with current evidence on pupils' development as well as their age.
- Groupings are carefully considered by teachers and senior leaders (including the Designated Safeguarding Lead as appropriate) - some classes may be taught in gender-specific groups, on a one to one basis or within a whole class setting - dependent on the nature of the topic being delivered at the time, the cultural, religious or personal background of pupils, their age and SEND.
- All resources are selected carefully and are suitable for the needs of the pupils being taught – inappropriate/illegal images, videos and other materials are not be used in any circumstances and all related school policies will be are followed.
- Care is taken to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of any pupil based on their home circumstances and needs, to reflect sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them; e.g. children in care or young carers.
- There is an awareness that some pupils are more susceptible to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND and appropriate actions will be taken to mitigate this.
- There is a balance between teaching pupils about making sensible decisions to stay safe (including online), whilst being clear it is never the fault of any child who is abused and why victim blaming is always wrong.
- It is recognised that pupils may be discovering or understanding their sexual orientation or gender identity and all pupils should feel that the content is relevant to them and explored at a timely point and in a clear, sensitive and respectful manner.
- Content related to LGBT+ is fully integrated into a range of topics, rather than delivered as a stand-alone unit or lesson.
- There is a focus on challenging perceived derogatory views about the legally protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/belief, sex and sexual orientation, through exploration of, and developing mutual respect for, those different to themselves.
- Steps are taken to foster healthy and respectful peer-to-peer communication and we provide an environment which challenges sexual violence and harassment as well as perceived limits on pupils based on their gender or any other protected characteristic.
- There is awareness of issues such as sexism, misogyny, homophobia, gender stereotypes, sexual violence and harassment (including online), with positive action taken to build a school culture within which these are not tolerated.
- Awareness of the issues of sexting and youth produced sexual imagery are not taught in isolation and instead are taught as part of a developmental PSHE programme, with all recent government guidance carefully considered.

8. WORKING WITH OTHER PROFESSIONALS

8.1 Working with external agencies can sometimes enhance our delivery of some aspects of RSE, bringing in specialist knowledge and different ways of engaging pupils. For example, Hartwell School may consider accessing support from the NHS or local specialist services who may be able to provide advice and CPD for teachers. Alternatively, we might introduce pupils to the School Nurse or a representative from the NSPCC Speak Out/Stay Safe Programme via a workshop.

8.2 Hartwell School only uses visitors to enhance teaching provided by our school staff, not to replace it. Staff employed by the school will be present during any RSE session delivered by an external visitor commissioned by the school. It will be agreed with any visitor how confidentiality will work in any lesson and how safeguarding reports are to be dealt with in line with the school Child Protection Policy and Procedures. Similarly, the school will consider whether information-sharing is necessary and will comply with the provisions of the school's Data Protection Policy.

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8.3 Where external experts are invited to assist from time-to-time with the delivery of RSE, they will be expected to comply with the provisions of this protocol and any related policies. In line with the usual procedures and policies of our school, we will check the credentials of all external agencies and we will ensure the teaching delivered by any external experts fits with the planned curriculum and provisions of this protocol. The school/learning centre will discuss with the visitor the details of how they intend to deliver their sessions and ensure that content is age-appropriate and accessible for all pupils. The school/learning centre will request copies of the materials and lesson plans the visitor will use, to ensure it meets the full range of pupils' needs.

8.4 Where a pupil has involvement from specialist external agencies, discussions between those agencies and appropriate senior staff in school, including the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), are important in order to ensure that RSE lessons are delivered in a way that is most appropriate for the individual child.

9. SAFEGUARDING AND CONFIDENTIALITY

9.1 At Hartwell School there is a focus on keeping our pupils safe, and the RSE curriculum plays an important role in our preventative education. All pupils are taught about keeping themselves safe, including how to stay safe online and how to stay safe within the community, as part of our over-arching curriculum. Teachers are made aware of common 'adverse childhood experiences' or ACEs (such as family breakdown, bereavement and exposure to domestic violence). Teachers should understand that pupils who have experienced problems at home may depend more on schools for support.

9.2 The PSHE/Citizenship Lead liaises with the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in anything that is safeguarding-related within the context of PSHE and Citizenship, including RSE and keeping safe. The DSL is likely to have knowledge of trusted, high quality local resources that could be engaged, as well as knowledge of any particular local issues which may be appropriate to address in lessons. The DSL liaises with the PSHE and Citizenship Lead about the circumstances of individual pupils if felt to be required, including when and how adverse childhood experiences may be affecting any individual pupil and so may be influencing how they experience these subjects topics. Additional professional advice will be sought if needed as related to those pupils, including support and advice from our on-site clinical services staff.

9.3 Our good practice allows pupils to have an open forum to discuss potentially sensitive issues and it is recognised that such discussions could lead to increased safeguarding reports. The school's Child Protection Policy and Procedures must be adhered to at all times and without exception, concerns or disclosures made within or as a result of PSHE and Citizenship lessons must be shared with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Pupils are made aware of how to raise their concerns or make a report and how any report will be handled. This includes processes when they have a concern about a friend or peer. Staff will never promise a child that they will not tell anyone about a report of abuse, as this may ultimately not be in the best interests of the child.

10. Managing Difficult Questions

10.1 At Hartwell School the PSHE and Citizenship Lead will provide advice to staff on the type of questions which are appropriate and inappropriate to ask and answer within a whole-class setting and the use of Ground Rules with pupils will support this process. Depending on the nature of the questions asked, staff will use their skill and discretion to determine whether a question will be answered at the time. They may decide to explain to a pupil that their question will be returned to at a later time and they may decide to discuss possible responses to questions with a parent/carer, the PSHE and Citizenship Lead, the DSL or a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Answers to questions may then be followed-up with individuals, small groups or a whole class as deemed to be appropriate.

11. IMPACT AND ASSESSMENT

11.1 Hartwell School has the same high expectations of the quality of pupils' work in RSE as for other curriculum areas. Our curriculum builds on the knowledge pupils have previously acquired, including in other subjects, with regular feedback provided on pupil progress. We recognise that impact of the RSE curriculum may not ever be observed in school or indeed until adulthood, but every effort will be made to track destination data

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which will provide us with some impact information. We will also make efforts to find out if pupils have been able to apply learning in the community or at home as appropriate eg. through discussions with parents, carers and other professionals

11.2 Learning is assessed and assessments are used to identify where pupils need extra support, intervention or additional challenge. Whilst there is no formal examined assessment for RSE, teachers will assess all outcomes to capture progress. Strategies include assessment against the school’s own assessment system (see Assessment Policy), as well as additional tests/quizzes, written assignments, self/peer evaluations, use of structured questioning, mind-maps, presentations/role-play, pupil interviews and learning portfolios.

12. MONITORING AND REVIEW

12.1 Supported by the Senior Leadership Team, the PSHE and Citizenship Lead is responsible for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning in RSE.

The quality of RSE provision is also subject to regular and effective self-evaluation as part of termly subject reports for PSHE and Citizenship. Information to be taken into account includes feedback from lesson visits and learning walks, planning and work scrutiny, pupil and parent feedback and pupil progress.

12.2 Factors to be considered as part of this process are outlined below:

- Is the curriculum effectively managed and are staff teaching RSE suitably skilled and knowledgeable?
- Does the RSE curriculum reflect national guidance, local priorities and pupils’ needs?
- Are all pupils being taught the curriculum as intended?
- Is the quality of teaching consistent across all classes and does it exemplify best practice?
- Are the RSE resources used suitable and accessible?

12.3 Hartwell School will review this local protocol annually to ensure it continues to reflect its best practice and that it meets the requirements of the Witherslack Group Relationships and Sex (RSE) Policy.

13. REFERENCES

- Accessibility Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Feedback, Marking and Assessment Policy
- Careers and Transition Policy
- Evaluating Teaching Policy
- Equal Opportunities, Equality and Diversity Policy
- Positive Behaviour Support Policy
- PSHE and Citizenship policy
- SEN Policy
- Reading Strategy
- PSHE & Citizenship Policy

14. APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Key Content

APPENDIX 2: Compulsory Aspects

APPENDIX 3: Curriculum Map

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APPENDIX 1

The school's curriculum is planned so that the key content is taught at the appropriate time for each pupil. The key content is outlined below and is provided within the *DfE's 2019 statutory guidance 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education'*. This does not include related content taught as part of the National Curriculum for Science or related content taught as part of Health Education.

By the end of primary school, pupils should know:

Families and people who care for me

- that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability.
- the characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives.
- that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care.
- that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up.
- that marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong (*Marriage in England and Wales is available to both opposite sex and same sex couples. The Marriage Act 2013 extended marriage to same sex couples in England and Wales. The ceremony through which a couple get married may be civil or religious*).
- how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.

Caring friendships

- how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.
- the characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties.
- that healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded.
- that most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right.
- how to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed.

Respectful relationships

- the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs.
- practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.
- the conventions of courtesy and manners.
- the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness.
- that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority.
- about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help.
- what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive.
- the importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults.

Online relationships

- that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not.
- that the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous.
- the rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them.

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- how to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met.
- how information and data is shared and used online.

Being safe

- what sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context).
- about the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe.
- that each person’s body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact.
- how to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know.
- how to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any person.
- how to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard.
- how to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so.
- where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources.

Sex Education:

At secondary school and at post 16 pupils should continue to develop knowledge on topics specified for primary pupils and should also know:

Families

- that there are different types of committed, stable relationships.
- how these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children.
- what marriage is, including their legal status e.g. that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony.
- why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into.
- the characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships.
- the roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting.
- how to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend, intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others’ relationships); and, how to seek help or advice, including reporting concerns about others, if needed.

Respectful relationships, including friendships

- the characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship.
- practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.
- how stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice).
- that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people’s beliefs.
- about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help.
- that some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control.
- what constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable.
- the legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal.

Online and media

- their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online.
- about online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online.

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- not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them.
- what to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online.
- the impact of viewing harmful content.
- that specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners.
- that sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail.
- how information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online.

Being safe

- the concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships.
- how people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online).

Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

- how to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship.
- that all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g. physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing.
- the facts about reproductive health, including fertility, and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women and menopause.
- that there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others.
- that they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex.
- the facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available.
- the facts around pregnancy including miscarriage.
- that there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help).
- how the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing.
- about the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment.
- how the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour.
- how to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment.

Related content in the National Curriculum for Science at Key Stages 1-4

At KS1 and KS2 young people:

- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air).
- describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.
- recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.
- explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.
- recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.
- describe the changes as humans develop to old age including physical and psychological changes during

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puberty.

- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function.
- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

At KS3 young people learn about:

- content of a healthy human diet: carbohydrates, lipids (fats and oils), proteins, vitamins, minerals, dietary fibre and water, and why each is needed.
- calculations of energy requirements in a healthy daily diet.
- the consequences of imbalances in the diet, including obesity, starvation and deficiency diseases.
- reproduction in humans (as an example of a mammal), including the structure and function of the male and female reproductive systems, menstrual cycle (without details. of hormones), gametes, fertilisation, gestation and birth, to include the effect of maternal lifestyle on the foetus through the placenta.
- the effects of recreational drugs (including substance misuse) on behaviour, health and life processes.
- the importance of maintaining biodiversity and the use of gene banks to preserve hereditary material.

At KS4, young people:

- Re-visit and expand on key themes such as puberty, hormones, age and reproduction as well as socio-economic aspects and chemistry of legal and illegal drugs.
- Focus and expand on sex and healthy relationships topics such as contraception.
- Focus on Science based careers on a topic-by-topic basis as well as expanding into the wider STEAM career pathways.
- Study ideas around vaccinations and reasoning behind people's choice to get a vaccine or have their children vaccinated.
- Study genetic conditions (e.g. cystic fibrosis) and other life-limiting/lifestyle affecting diseases and how they can affect people's reproduction choices.

Related content in the Health Education curriculum as part of PSHE and Citizenship at Key Stages 1-4

Year 1

- how to respond safely to adults they don't know
- what to do if they feel unsafe or worried for themselves or others; and the importance of keeping on asking for support until they are heard
- what being healthy means and who helps help them to stay healthy (e.g. parent, dentist, doctor)
- that people have different roles in the community to help them (and others) keep safe - the jobs they do and how they help people
- who can help them in different places and situations; how to attract someone's attention or ask for help; what to say
-

Year 2

- ways to manage big feelings and the importance of sharing their feelings with someone they trust
- how to recognise when they might need help with feelings and how to ask for help when they need it
- about being a part of different groups, and the role they play in these groups e.g. class, teams, faith groups
- about different rights and responsibilities that they have in school and the wider community

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- about how a community can help people from different groups to feel included
- to recognise that they are all equal, and ways in which they are the same and different to others in their community
- the ways in which people can access the internet e.g. phones, tablets, computers
- to recognise the purpose and value of the internet in everyday life
- to recognise that some content on the internet is factual and some is for entertainment e.g. news, games, videos
- that information online might not always be true

Year 3

- that their body belongs to them and should not be hurt or touched without their permission; what to do and who to tell if they feel uncomfortable
- how to recognise and respond to pressure to do something that makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable (including online)
- how they belong to different groups and communities, e.g. friendship, faith, clubs, classes/year groups
- what is meant by a diverse community; how different groups make up the wider/local community around the school
- how the community helps everyone to feel included and values the different contributions that people make
- how to be respectful towards people who may live differently to them

Year 4

- how to respond proportionately to, and manage, feelings in different circumstances
- how to access advice and support to help manage their own or others' feelings
- about puberty and how bodies change during puberty, including menstruation and menstrual wellbeing, erections and wet dreams
- how puberty can affect emotions and feelings
- how personal hygiene routines change during puberty
- how to ask for advice and support about growing and changing and puberty
- how to keep safe in the local environment and less familiar locations (e.g. near rail, water, road; fire/firework safety; sun safety and the safe use of digital devices when out and about)
- how people can be influenced by their peers' behaviour and by a desire for peer approval; how to manage this influence
- how people's online actions can impact on other people
- how to keep safe online, including managing requests for personal information and recognising what is appropriate to share or not share online
- how to report concerns, including about inappropriate online content and contact
- that rules, restrictions and laws exist to help people keep safe and how to respond if they become aware of a situation that is anti-social or against the law

Year 5

- how to recognise and respect similarities and differences between people and what they have in common with others
- that there are a range of factors that contribute to a person's identity (e.g. ethnicity, family, faith, culture, gender, hobbies, likes/dislikes)
- how individuality and personal qualities make up someone's identity (including that gender identity is part of personal identity and for some people does not correspond with their biological sex)
- about stereotypes and how they are not always accurate, and can negatively influence behaviours and attitudes towards others
- how to challenge stereotypes and assumptions about others
- how drugs common to everyday life (including smoking/vaping - nicotine, alcohol, caffeine and medicines) can affect health and wellbeing
- that some drugs are legal (but may have laws or restrictions related to them) and other drugs are illegal
- how laws surrounding the use of drugs exist to protect them and others

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- why people choose to use or not use different drugs
- how people can prevent or reduce the risks associated with them
- that for some people, drug use can become a habit which is difficult to break
- how organisations help people to stop smoking and the support available to help people if they have concerns about any drug use
- how to ask for help from a trusted adult if they have any worries or concerns about drugs

Year 6

- how to manage the influence of friends and family on health choices
- that FGM is illegal and goes against human rights; that they should tell someone immediately if they are worried for themselves or someone else¹
- how legal and illegal drugs (legal and illegal) can affect health and how to manage situations involving them
- to recognise unsafe or suspicious content online and what to do about it
- how to make decisions about the content they view online or in the media and know if it is appropriate for their age range
- how to respond to and if necessary, report information viewed online which is upsetting, frightening or untrue

Year 7

- About identity, rights and responsibilities
- About living in a diverse society
- How to challenge prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination
- The signs and effects of all types of bullying, including online
- How to respond to bullying of any kind, including online
- How to support others
- How to recognise and respond to inappropriate and unwanted contact
- About FGM and how to access help and support
- How to manage influences relating to caffeine, smoking and alcohol

Year 8

- How to assess the risks of alcohol, tobacco, nicotine and e-cigarettes
- How to manage influences in relation to substance use
- How to recognise and promote positive social norms and attitudes
- How to develop digital resilience

Year 9

- How to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy friendships
- How to assess risk and manage influences, including online
- About 'group think' and how it affects behaviour
- How to recognise passive, aggressive and assertive behaviour, and how to communicate assertively
- To manage risk in relation to gangs
- About the legal and physical risks of carrying a knife
- About positive social norms in relation to drug and alcohol use
- About legal and health risks in relation to drug and alcohol use, including addiction and dependence
- Extremism and Radicalisation Unit

Year 10

- How to challenge stigma, stereotypes and misinformation
- Citizenship Project

Year 11

- Beliefs and Values Project
- Consider what makes a good role model and the media's impact on the perception of gang culture
- Consider the impact of drugs on individuals, personal safety, families, and wider communities.
- Assess how to stay safe in situations that involve substance use
- Consider how to manage peer influence in relation to substances, gangs, and crime
- Exploration of marriage, different types of families and changing family structures
- Explore honour-based violence and forced marriages
- How to manage conflict and different types of relationship breakdowns.

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APPENDIX 2

Please see below an overview of the compulsory aspects (as set out by the DfE) of RSE, within the different stages of education.

	KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4
Relationship education	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal
PSHE - Health education	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal
Science - reproduction education	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal	Must be taught – no right to withdrawal
Sex education (beyond the compulsory Health and Science aspects of the curriculum)	Schools can choose whether to teach this – parents can withdraw	Schools can choose whether to teach this – parents can withdraw	Must be taught – parents can withdraw	Must be taught – parents can withdraw until three terms before a child's 16 th birthday

Post 16/KS5 Pupils

The Independent Schools Standards clarify that PSHE is compulsory and also that where the school has pupils above compulsory school age, a programme of activities which is appropriate to their needs must be in place. The DfE 16-19 study programme clarifies that the principles apply equally to students with SEND. Whilst there is no specific reference to RSE in the 16-19 study programmes, the guidance explains that all 16-19 pupils are expected to take part in meaningful non-qualification activity, such as activities to develop confidence, character, resilience and life-skills.

In line with the SEND Code of Practice (2015), some young people aged 16 and over may have RSE related outcomes in their EHCPs as part of their transition to adulthood. In addition, the SEND Code of Practice explains that after compulsory school age (the end of the academic year in which they turn 16) the right to make requests and decisions under the Children and Families Act 2014 applies to young people directly, rather than to their parents.

Schools within the Witherslack Group have chosen to continue to offer RSE for Post 16 students, in response to the above requirements and as a progression of learning for secondary pupils.

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APPENDIX 3

Please see below our Curriculum Map which shows when RSE related content is taught

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 1	PSHE – similarities and differences. Science – body parts and the senses	PSHE – features of family life.	PSHE - being healthy; hygiene; medicines.	PSHE - people who help us with health	PSHE - keeping safe; people who help us	PSHE - how can we look after each other
Year 2	Science - exercise, eating and hygiene for human growth. PSHE – what makes a good friend.	PSHE – what is bullying.	PSHE – rights & responsibilities. Belonging to different groups.	PSHE – what helps us to stay safe.	PSHE - what can help us grow and stay healthy	PSHE - how do we recognise our feelings
Year 3	Science – eating healthy & healthy bodies PSHE - friendship; making positive friendships, managing loneliness, dealing with arguments	PSHE - keeping safe; at home and school; our bodies; hygiene; medicines and household	PSHE - family life; caring for each other	PSHE - belonging to groups; similarities and differences; respect for others	PSHE - why should we eat well and look after our teeth.	PSHE - why should we keep active and sleep well.
Year 4	Science – digestion & teeth PSHE - self-worth; personal qualities; managing set-backs	PSHE - respect for self and others; courteous behaviour; safety; human rights	PSHE - feelings and emotions; expression of feelings	PSHE - growing and changing; puberty	Science – understanding food chains PSHE - shared responsibilities, making choices and decisions	PSHE - keeping safe; out and about; recognising and managing risk
Year 5	PSHE - personal attributes and qualities; similarities and differences;	PSHE - how people make choices	PSHE - basic first aid, accidents, dealing with emergencies	PSHE - relationships; becoming independent; online safety	Science – life cycles and reproduction PSHE - drugs, alcohol and tobacco; healthy habits	Science – how do bodies change including puberty and old age PSHE - how to ask for help from a trusted adult
Year 6	Science - human circulatory system	Science -impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on	PSHE - how the media, including online experiences, can	PSHE - to recognise unsafe or suspicious	PSHE - people have different kinds of relationships in	PSHE - how babies are conceived and born and

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	PSHE - how mental and physical health are linked	the way their bodies function. PSHE - how to manage the influence of friends and family on health choices	affect people's wellbeing	content online and what to do about it	their lives, including romantic or intimate relationships	how they need to be cared for. Ways to prevent a baby being made.
Year 7	Science – human variations e.g. height, eye colour. PSHE - friendships – positive and spotting toxic ones.	PSHE - being a resilient student and managing change	PSHE - signs and effects of all types of bullying, including online	Science – reproduction in humans, contraception, pregnancy, birth & healthy relationships. PSHE - relationships & consent	Science – human cells, tissues and organs. PSHE - how to make healthy lifestyle choices including diet, dental health, physical activity and sleep	PSHE - how to recognise and respond to inappropriate and unwanted contact. About FGM and how to access help and support
Year 8	Science – understanding structure of bones and muscles. Effects of smoking. PSHE - the relationship between habit and dependence	Science – healthy lifestyles and impact of choices such as alcohol, & drugs. Links to mental health. PSHE - manage influences in relation to substance use	PSHE - how to manage emotions and attitudes to mental health.	PSHE - about unhealthy coping strategies (e.g. self harm and eating disorders) compared with healthy strategies.	PSHE - how to demonstrate positive behaviours in healthy relationships. About gender identity and sexual orientation	PSHE - about the law in relation to consent. About the risks of 'sexting' and how to manage requests or pressure to send an image
Year 9	PSHE - how to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy friendships	Science – use of control of bacteria, DNA models PSHE - how to recognise passive, aggressive and assertive behaviour,	PSHE - about different types of families and parenting, including single parents, same sex parents, blended families, adoption and fostering.	PSHE - how to manage relationship and family changes. How to access support services	PSHE - to take increased responsibility for physical health, including testicular self-examination about readiness for sexual activity, the choice to delay sex, or enjoy intimacy without sex.	PSHE - about STIs, effective use of condoms and negotiating safer sex. About the continuous right to withdraw consent and capacity to consent.
Year 10	PSHE - strategies to promote mental health and emotional wellbeing.	Science - Revisit knowledge of human reproduction including: pregnancy, birth, IVF, DNA & genetics. PSHE - how to access support and treatment	PSHE - about relationship values and the role of pleasure in relationships. About asexuality, abstinence and celibacy.	PSHE - how to manage the impact of the media and pornography on sexual attitudes, expectations and behaviours.	PSHE - about assumptions, misconceptions and social norms about sex, gender and relationships.	PSHE - how to recognise and respond to pressure, coercion and exploitation, including reporting and accessing appropriate support

Year 11	Science – impact of smoking PSHE - Explore personal hygiene including bacteria and viruses.	PSHE - consider good dental hygiene and the importance of regular cancer screening.	PSHE - consider risky behaviours and the consequences. Consider reproductive health, fertility, and the menopause	PSHE - evaluate readiness for parenthood consider different typed of contraception.	Science - knowledge of the immune system and how the body prevents infections. PSHE - assess how to stay safe in situations that involve substance use.	PSHE - explore honour- based violence and forced marriages. How to manage conflict and different types of relationship breakdowns.
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