



Brunswick Park Primary School

Learning for living through Respect, Support and Challenge

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

1. Aims

The aims of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at Brunswick Park Primary School are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place;
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene;
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy;
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships;
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.

2. Statutory requirements

Brunswick Park is a Local Authority Maintained Primary School so must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#).

However, it is not required to provide sex education, but needs to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum. Science is a statutory subject in the National Curriculum.

In teaching RSE, the school must have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

We must also have regard to our legal duties set out in:

- Sections 406 and 407 of the Education Act 1996
- Part 6, chapter 1 of the Equality Act 2010
- The Public Sector Equality Duty (as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). This duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

At Brunswick Park Primary School, RSE is taught as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review – a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Staff consultation – all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy
4. Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

4. Definition

RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

RSE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

5. Teaching RSE

At Brunswick Park Primary School, we follow The Christopher Winter Project scheme of work when teaching RSE. RSE is taught within the personal, social, health, citizenship and economic education curriculum (PSHCE). Additional biological aspects of RSE are taught through the science curriculum. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so that pupils are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

The National Curriculum Science Programme of Study includes the following aspects of sex education:

At Key Stage 1 (age 5 – 7), pupils should be taught

- that animals, including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce;
- to name the main external parts of the human body;
- to recognise similarities and differences between themselves and other pupils;
- that humans can produce babies and these babies grow into children and then adults;
- to know that humans develop at different rates and that human babies have special needs;
- to name parts of the body including the reproductive system and understand the concept of male and female (external/internal);
- about personal safety, e.g. know that individuals have rights over their own bodies and that there are differences between good and bad touches; begin to develop simple skills and practices which will help maintain personal safety;
- to appreciate ways in which people learn to live and work together: listening, discussing, sharing.

At Key Stage 2 (age 7 – 11), pupils should be taught

- that there are life processes, including nutrition, movement, growth and reproduction common to animals including humans;
- the main stages of the human life cycle;
- the importance of valuing oneself and others;
- to begin to recognise the range of human emotions and ways to deal with these;
- to begin to know about and have some understanding of the physical, emotional and social changes which take place at puberty;
- to know the basic biology of human reproduction, including how a baby is conceived and born, and understand some of the skills necessary for parenting;
- to know and understand how changes at puberty affect the body in relation to hygiene.

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).

5.1 Inclusivity

We will teach about these topics in a manner that:

- Considers how a diverse range of pupils will relate to them
- Is sensitive to all pupils' experiences
- During lessons, makes pupils feel:
 - Safe and supported
 - Able to engage with the key messages

We will also:

- Make sure that pupils learn about these topics in an environment that's appropriate for them, for example in:
 - A whole-class setting
 - Small groups or targeted sessions
 - 1-to-1 discussions
 - Digital formats
- Give careful consideration to the level of differentiation needed.

5.2 Use of resources

We will consider whether any resources we plan to use:

- Are aligned with the teaching requirements set out in the statutory RSE guidance
- Would support pupils in applying their knowledge in different contexts and settings
- Are age-appropriate, given the age, developmental stage and background of our pupils
- Are evidence-based and contain robust facts and statistics
- Fit into our curriculum plan
- Are from credible sources
- Are compatible with effective teaching approaches
- Are sensitive to pupils' experiences and won't provoke distress

6. Roles and responsibilities

The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school,

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Teaching RSE in a sensitive way;
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE;
- Monitoring progress;
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils.

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss them with the Head Teacher.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, to treat others with respect and sensitivity.

7. Use of external organisations and materials

At Brunswick Park, we use the Christopher Winter Project scheme of work to teach RSE. All materials used are appropriate and in line with our legal duties around political impartiality. We do not invite external agencies to give RSE lessons.

We will not, under any circumstances:

- Work with external agencies that take or promote extreme political positions
- Use materials produced by such agencies, even if the material itself is not extreme

8. Parents' and Carers' right to withdraw

Parents/carers do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE. **However, pupils at Brunswick Park Primary will only be taught statutory components of sex education, from which they cannot be withdrawn.**

9. Policy Review

This policy will be updated no less than annually.