



# 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
- Support pupils in gaining language and skills to feel confident in communicating their feelings
- Foster an environment of respect for all

## 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.

THE PSHE and RSE curriculum covers all relevant topics information set out in the statutory guidance.

Brunswick Park Primary follows the statutory guidance from the government on teaching RSE and PSHE:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62cea352e90e071e789ea9bf/Relationships Education RSE and Health Education.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62cea352e90e071e789ea9bf/Relationships_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-social-health-and-economic-education-pshe/personal-social-health-and-economic-pshe-education#personal-social-health-and-economic-education>

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

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:

- Review – a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance

- Staff consultation – all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
- Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties will be invited to attend a meeting about the policy
- Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
- 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 we follow the EC Publishing Primary package of PSHE and RSE.

The curriculum is planned and supported by the PSHE association.

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health, citizenship and economic education curriculum (PSHCE). Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum and through RSE at age-appropriate stages for year groups.

Clear curriculum maps are in place for all year groups that cover all three strands of PSHE.

Relationships education has its own strand.

We also teach a Wellbeing curriculum alongside our PSHE curriculum.

The National Curriculum Science Orders include 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 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, LGBTQ 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 and be able to engage with the key messages

We will also:

Make sure that pupils learn about these topics in an environment that is appropriate for them, for example in:

- A whole class setting
- Small groups or targeted sessions
- 1-to-1 discussions
- Digital formats

We will implement adaptive teaching when needed, so that children of all abilities can access RSE content.

## **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 will not provoke distress

## **6. Roles and responsibilities**

### **The Head Teacher**

The Head Teacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school.

### **PSHE/RSE Curriculum Lead**

The curriculum lead is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the policy in place is followed and reviewed as changes and developments happen at any stage of the academic year
- Ensuring that the quality of PSHE and RSE is good across the school
- Creating and updating an action plan in line with the school development plan
- Monitoring reviewing through a range of practices- lesson observations and book scrutinies
- Ensure parental involvement through parent forums
- Ensure pupil voice is heard through student surveys and discussion
- Listen to feedback from all stakeholders to continually improve the curriculum

## **Staff**

Staff are responsible for:

- Teaching RSE in a sensitive way
- Adaptive planning for all groups of pupils
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Recording and reporting any concerns on CPOMS when there may be information from a child that needs to be monitored or investigated

**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.

Staff training is in place for the delivery and planning of PSHE and RSE.

## **Pupils**

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

## **7. Parents' and Carers' right to withdraw**

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

Parents/carers have a right to request that their child is withdrawn from sex education, but not from relationships education.

Parents can ask the school for their child to be withdrawn from some or all of sex education lessons.

When a request for withdrawal is made, a meeting is held to discuss the importance of RSE and put parents at ease with curriculum coverage and content.

Written requests for the withdrawal from RSE must be made to the Head Teacher.

## **8. Use of external organisations and materials**

At Brunswick Park, we use the EC Publishing schemes 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

## **9. Policy Review**

This policy will be updated no less than annually

Links to statutory guidance and related documents

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>