

Belmont Primary Relationships and Sex Education Policy



Belmont School

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Belmont Primary School

RSE Policy

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Belmont Primary School's Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy, developed in accordance with guidance from the PSHE Association, aims to provide pupils with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to build healthy, respectful relationships and lead fulfilling lives. The policy outlines a comprehensive, age-appropriate RSE curriculum that promotes self-respect, empathy, and an understanding of diverse family structures. Delivered by trained staff in a sensitive manner, the programme covers key themes such as families and people who care for me, caring friendships, respectful relationships, online safety, and being safe. It emphasises the importance of consent, recognising and reporting abuse, and seeking advice when needed. The policy also addresses the rights of parents to withdraw their children from certain RSE lessons, as well as the school's commitment to ongoing consultation with families and stakeholders. Through robust monitoring and assessment, Belmont Primary ensures the effective implementation of its RSE policy, equipping pupils with the tools to navigate the complexities of relationships in an ever-changing world.

Aims

The aim of relationships education at Belmont Primary is to help students develop self-respect, confidence, and empathy. Students will learn about healthy relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in an age-appropriate and faith-sensitive manner. This will include lessons on online relationships and how to seek help if they feel unsafe. The curriculum will respect the diversity of families in our community.

Relationships education at Belmont is not about sexual relationships. Instead, our goal is to ensure all students have the skills, knowledge, attitudes, and values to lead happy and successful lives now and in the future.

This policy was developed through a collaborative process involving staff, students, and parents, as required by the Department for Education. This included:

1. Reviewing relevant national and local guidance
2. Consulting with staff to get their recommendations
3. Inviting parents and other stakeholders to provide input, review resources, and make suggestions
4. Speaking with students about the skills they want to learn
5. Finalising the policy and getting approval from the school governors

Statutory requirements

Relationships education is now compulsory in primary schools from 2020, so all Belmont students will participate in these lessons. Sex education is not compulsory at the primary level, but students will learn about puberty from teachers as part of science, health, and PSHE lessons in Year 6. Other sex education topics will only be covered if there are specific safeguarding concerns, and parents will be informed in advance.

Policy development

This comprehensive RSE policy was developed through a thorough consultation process involving staff, pupils, and parents. The key steps in this policy development included:

- Review: A working group gathered all relevant national and local guidance to inform the policy.
- Staff Consultation: All school staff were given the opportunity to review the draft policy and provide recommendations.

- Parent/carer Consultation: Parents and other interested parties were invited to comment and provide feedback on the policy.
- Pupil Consultation: We sought direct input from pupils on their needs and preferences for RSE.
- Ratification: After incorporating feedback, the final policy was shared with and approved by the school governors.

The resulting policy aligns with guidance from the PSHE Association and reflects the unique needs and context of Belmont School.

Definition

Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) focuses on the emotional, social, and cultural development of students. It encompasses learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity, and personal identity. RSE involves a combination of imparting information and exploring relevant issues and values.

Intent and implementation

At Belmont Primary School, we focus on teaching RSE in the context of relationships. Biological aspects are taught as part of National Curriculum science lessons.

As much as possible, we provide an interactive learning environment that is motivating and allows pupils to practise skills through a range of teaching strategies and scenario-based learning. We also allow time for reflection and allow children to ask questions in a safe and non-judgmental environment. RSE sessions always take place in a safe environment to allow effective learning to take place. All sessions have clear aims and learning outcomes.

What are the key themes that will be taught in Relationships Education in primary school?

➤ Being safe

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships.

What values underpin Relationships Education?

- The core values include:
- The importance of stable loving relationships
- Right, responsibilities and law
- Respect for all
- Kindness
- Generosity
- Honesty
- Equality

Monitoring

The PSHE lead will carry out a pupil voice survey to indicate the pupils' understanding of RSE and evaluate the methods used to teach them. The PSHE subject lead will monitor and evaluate planning and teaching of RSE lessons. Records of any parent complaints and feedback will be reviewed termly.

The governing body will:

- Monitor parental, staff and pupil involvement in the development of the RSE curriculum
- Seek the advice of the Headteacher and RSE lead on this policy, keep it up to date and make it available to parents
- Ensure that RSE is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life and the relationships.

The Headteacher will ensure that:

- Both staff and parents are informed about our Relationship and Sex Education policy.
- The governing body is advised about the nature and organisation of RSE and how it reflects the aims and values of the school.

- Members of staff, including the RSE Lead are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity
- This policy is monitored on a regular basis and reports to governors on the effectiveness of the policy
- All safeguarding issues are dealt with in line with the schools child protection and safeguarding policy

The subject lead will ensure that:

- Both staff and parents are informed about our Relationship and Sex Education policy
- Members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity
- RSE is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life and relationships
- Teachers have access to appropriate resources and planning for the teaching of RSE
- Monitor the implementation, planning and teaching of an agreed scheme of work
- Monitor assessments of PSHE and RSE
- Meet with parents who have questions and/or concerns relating to the teaching of RSE

Staff who teach RSE are expected to:

- Provide RSE in accordance with this policy and in a way which encourages pupils to consider morals and the values of family life
- Participate in training to provide RSE in line with the school curriculum policy
- Implement the agreed scheme of work
- Draw to the attention of the Headteacher any materials which they consider to be inappropriate
- Respond appropriately to those pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from sex education

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct Relationship and sex Education lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence.

However, if a child makes a reference to being involved, or likely to be involved in sexual activity, or indicates

that they may have been a victim of abuse, this will be dealt with in line with our child protection and

safeguarding policy.

Answering Difficult Questions

If a child asks an explicit or difficult question, the staff will use their professional judgement in deciding the

best way to answer it. This may be through individual work or discussion with the child. If the staff member is

concerned, they can refer to the Headteacher who can discuss the matter with the parent, or follow other appropriate procedures.

Relationship to other policies and documentation

This policy should be read in conjunction with Relationships Education and other safeguarding policies and documentation:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education – statutory

guidance

- Child Protection Policy
- Safeguarding Policy

Parental Rights:

During each review of our RSE curriculum, parents will be consulted, along with staff and children (where appropriate).

Schools will engage and consult with parents/carers when developing and reviewing their curriculum for Relationships Education, Sex Education and Health Education. Parents/carers are encouraged to take up the opportunities when they are offered.

Schools may consult parents/carers in different ways, so you may be invited to a consultation meeting or to give your views through surveys, for example. There will be opportunities to find

out the content that is in the curriculum, to see examples of materials the school will use and to ask questions and share any concerns with the RSE Subject Lead.

Schools will listen to parent/carer views, but they must deliver the statutory curriculum content. Parent/carer consultation does not provide the power to veto curriculum content. Exactly how the curriculum is taught is ultimately a decision for the school.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory science components of sex education within RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the headteacher.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education