

St Laurence Church Infant School

Relationships Education Policy



Approved by: Full Governing Board
Last revised on: December 2025
Next review due by: December 2026



As a Rights Respecting School, we promote the knowledge that all children have the right to be protected from abuse (Article 19); to have information about how to stay safe and healthy (Article 24); and to an education that teaches them to understand their own rights and respect those of others, and that helps them to live peacefully (Article 29).

This policy outlines how adults as duty bearers can ensure our rights holders have access to these rights.

Statutory Guidance ~~Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Guidance DfE 2019~~

This policy is informed by the statutory guidance: *Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (DfE, 2019)*, and the draft updated statutory guidance consulted on in May 2024. The school will implement any mandatory changes arising from the final published guidance once enacted.

'All schools must have an up-to-date policy, which is made available to parents and others. The policy should:

- define Relationships Education;
 - set out the subject content, how it is taught and who is responsible for teaching it;
 - describe how the subject is monitored and evaluated;
 - include information to clarify why parents do not have a right to withdraw their child;
 - confirm the date by which the policy will be reviewed.'
- ~~Relationships Education is compulsory for all pupils receiving a primary education. Relationships and Sex Education is compulsory for all pupils receiving a secondary education. The National Curriculum Science Curriculum for Years 1 and 2 includes reference to the human body and the processes of reproduction and growth and is compulsory. Health Education is compulsory in all schools.~~

Relationships Education is compulsory for all pupils in primary education. Health Education is compulsory for all pupils in state-funded schools. Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from Relationships Education or Health Education. Sex Education is not compulsory in primary schools beyond the statutory Science curriculum.

Definition

At St Laurence Church Infant School we believe Relationships Education should teach the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other peers and adults.

Aims

We aim to:

- help children learn to respect themselves and others;
 - develop children's ability to form strong, positive relationships with others;
 - prepare our children to live confident, healthy and independent lives;
 - provide our children with positive Christian based attitudes and values;
 - develop pupils' personal and social skills;
 - provide pupils with relevant knowledge and understanding;
 - teach children the knowledge they ~~need~~ need to recognise and report abuse;
 - provide children with a safe environment in which to share worries and concerns.
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Subject Content - Relationships Education

At St Laurence Church Infant School the teaching of Relationships Education includes:

- teaching and learning about families and people who care for us;
- teaching and learning about caring friendships;
- teaching and learning about respectful relationships;
- teaching and learning about online relationships;
- teaching and learning about being safe.

Inclusive and cross-curricular Relationships Education is delivered in a way that engages young children and involves them in their own learning. It aims to improve children's self-esteem and support their emotional development. It is based upon the developmental and expressed needs of children and is mindful of their previous experience. With our strong Christian ethos we would expect Relationships Education to be firmly embedded in the whole nature of our school life. All adults working in school are expected to offer children a positive role model.

Science Programme of Study

~~The Science Programmes of Study:~~

The National Curriculum for Science includes learning about the human body, growth and reproduction in an age-appropriate biological context.

Year 1 - Animals, including humans

- 'identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense'

Year 2 - Animals, including humans

- '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)'

Health Education

~~Health Education~~ Health Education is delivered through PSHE, PE and Science.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Relationships Education at St Laurence Church Infant School is fully aligned with our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Teaching includes age-appropriate learning about:

- recognising unsafe situations;
- understanding personal boundaries;
- seeking help from trusted adults;
- recognising coercion and manipulation in age-appropriate forms;
- staying safe online.

Any disclosures made during Relationships Education lessons are handled in line with school safeguarding procedures and statutory guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education*.

Online Relationships

~~teaching and learning about online relationships~~

Teaching about online relationships includes helping children to:

- understand that online contact may feel different to in-person relationships;
 - know that not everyone online is who they claim to be;
 - recognise inappropriate behaviour;
 - know how to talk to a trusted adult if something online makes them feel worried, unsafe or uncomfortable.
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Early Years Foundation Stage

Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage have the opportunity to explore appropriate Relationships Education through Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Religious Education.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

Is a Prime Area of Learning which includes the following Early Learning Goals:

- Self-confidence and self-awareness
- Managing feelings and behaviour
- Making relationships

We work with Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid and the Violence Reduction Partnership to deliver the "Bright Beginnings" scheme as part of our PSED curriculum. This teaches children about respectful relationships, how to recognise "uh-oh" feelings and how to talk to a trusted adult about any worries.

Religious Education

Relationships Education in EYFS is taught through the Surrey (Guildford Diocese) Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, through the key question: "Who am I and where do I belong?" and through Understanding Christianity in the topic of creation.

Key Stage One

Children in Key Stage One are taught Relationships Education through PSHE and Religious Education.

PSHE

The PSHE curriculum provides opportunities to explore:

- developing confidence and responsibility;
- preparing to play an active role as citizens;
- developing a healthier, safer lifestyle;
- developing good relations and respecting differences.

Religious Education

Through the Golden Thread of 'Identity', children:

- begin to understand the importance of religion and belief;
 - ask questions about what it means to be human;
 - reflect on feelings, experiences and belonging.
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Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (UPDATED)

~~All children, regardless of ability, are provided with differentiated opportunities to participate in Relationships Education.~~

All pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), are entitled to access the full Relationships Education curriculum.

Teaching is adapted to meet individual needs through differentiated activities, targeted support and appropriate resources in line with each child's needs and Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) where applicable.

Equality

~~We recognise the obligation to comply with the relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and to ensure that we do not discriminate against pupils because of any protected characteristics.~~

St Laurence Church Infant School complies with the Equality Act 2010 and does not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity.

We actively challenge sexism, misogyny, homophobia ~~and~~ biphobia and transphobia, and gender stereotypes and take positive action to build a culture where these are not tolerated. Staff have an important role to play in modelling positive behaviours.

British Values

Relationships Education supports the promotion of Fundamental British Values including mutual respect, tolerance, democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty, alongside our strong Christian ethos of love, compassion and justice.

Working with Parents and Carers

We recognise that parents and carers are key partners in supporting the personal development of children.

Parents are informed of:

- the Relationships Education curriculum content;
- how it is taught;
- the resources used;
- how sensitive questions are handled.

This policy is published on the school website and is available on request. Opportunities for consultation and discussion are provided when the policy is reviewed.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Leadership (UPDATED)

~~Monitoring and evaluation is carried out by the staff using their professional judgement and knowledge of the children.~~

The PSHE Subject Leader has overall responsibility for the planning, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of Relationships Education.

Monitoring may include:

- scrutiny of planning;
- lesson visits;
- pupil voice;
- staff feedback.

The Headteacher and Governing Body oversee this provision as part of their statutory duties for curriculum, safeguarding and pupil welfare.

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if statutory guidance changes.

Withdrawal

~~The Relationships Education, RSE and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 have made Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools. Sex education is not compulsory in primary schools. Parents do not have the right to request their child be withdrawn from Relationship Education.~~

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from Relationships Education or Health Education. Sex education is not compulsory in primary schools beyond the statutory Science curriculum.

~~The DfE launched a consultation on a draft update to the statutory relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) guidance in May 2024. Any updates from this will be reflected and included when this policy is reviewed.~~

Any statutory changes resulting from the 2024 RSHE guidance update will be implemented at the next review cycle or sooner if required by law.