

St Laurence Church Infant School

Relationships Education Policy



Approved by: Full Governing Board
Last revised on: December 2024
Next review due by: December 2025



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.

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

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

- define Relationship 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.

Definition

At St Laurence Church Infant School we believe Relationship 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 to recognise and report abuse;
- provide children with a safe environment in which to share worries and concerns.

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.

The Science Programmes of Study:

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

This is delivered through PSHE, PE and Science.

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.

PSED:

Is a Prime Area of Learning which includes the following three 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 (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) and Religious Education.

PSHE

The PSHE curriculum provides an opportunity for children to explore Relationships Education particularly through the themes of:

- developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of each pupil's abilities;
- preparing to play an active role as citizens;
- developing a healthier, safer lifestyle;
- developing good relations and respecting differences between people.

Religious Education

Relationships Education in KS1 is taught through the Surrey (Guildford Diocese) Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education:

Through the Golden Thread of 'Identity' children are encouraged to:

- Begin to understand the importance and value of religion and belief for different people, especially other children, their families and the communities they belong to.
- Ask questions and express their own views about what it means to be human: what's important to themselves and to others, valuing themselves, reflecting on their own feelings and experiences and developing a sense of belonging.

Special Educational Needs

All children, regardless of ability, are provided with differentiated opportunities to participate in Relationships Education. Teachers take into account the different abilities of the children when planning work and use resources appropriately to support this work.

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. We also recognise our obligation to make reasonable adjustments to alleviate disadvantage and to be mindful of the SEND Code of Practice. At St Laurence Church Infant School we challenge everyday sexism, misogyny, homophobia 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.

We recognise the entitlement of every child to full entitlement of the curriculum and the teaching of Relationships Education. Children who may need extra support are provided with this within the class setting. Groupings are varied to include individual, small group, whole class or friendship groups. This enables the children to feel secure whatever their individual needs may be.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation is carried out by the staff using their professional judgement and knowledge of the children. The PSHE co-ordinator will monitor planning to ensure Relationships Education is being delivered sensitively and appropriately. Children will be asked to use Assessment for Learning to evaluate their own learning through discussion times.

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.

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.