



BENTLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

(SRE)

Date of review	September 2023
Addendum Added	September 2020
Period of review	3 years
Review lead	Charlie Vogel
Governor Committee	Standards & curriculum

1. Aims

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our 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
- Follow our Christian school values of Love, Courage and Community:

Our Christian values underpin our ethos: every child is valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential, and where every member of our school community is encouraged to respect and value each other. Wherever possible, we make close links between our school values, key learning behaviours, worships and our PSHE curriculum.

2. Statutory requirements

As a maintained primary school we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

However, we are not required to provide sex education but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

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

At Bentley C E Primary School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

Church of England Guidelines

The content of the PSHE and RSE curriculum is age appropriate and offers a progressive sequence of learning in line with the guidance (2020) and [charter for RSE from the Church of England](#). (November 2019)

As a Church of England school, we ensure that our PSHE and RSE curriculum protects, informs and nurtures all pupils. We aim to differentiate between factual teaching (biology, medicine, the law, marriage, different types of families and the composition of society) and moral teaching about relationships and values, recognising that these sometimes merge.

The DfE Guidance states:

‘In all schools, when teaching these subjects, the religious background of all pupils must be taken into account when planning teaching, so that the topics that are included in core content in the guidance are

appropriately handled. Schools must ensure they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010, under which religion or belief are amongst the protected characteristics.'

'All schools may teach about faith perspectives. In particular, schools with a religious character may teach distinctive faith perspective on relationships, and balance debate may take place about issues that are seen as contentious.'

At Bentley CE Primary School, we will avoid giving the impression that there is a single position on such issues between Christian denominations or even within the Church of England. Other legal forms of marriage should be presented as legitimate with acknowledgement that there are many forms of happy family structures.

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 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. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

Primary sex education will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

At Bentley CE Primary School, we teach the RSE curriculum using the supplementary online resources from [1Decision](#) for all primary aged children. Currently the Early Years use the SEAL resources but will hopefully soon be moving over the 1Decision too.

Teachers are given the creative freedom to teach their objectives on a week by week basis or by blocking the lessons together. They follow the long term school planning document which ensures that all objectives are met over the course of a child's education at Bentley. See Appendix 2.

RSE is taught with age, ability, additional needs and personal experiences in mind. The topics are covered through differentiated teaching to cater for all children's experiences which includes resources for those on the SEND register. To enrich the curriculum, we invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE as appropriate.

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

In addition to the science provision, the SRE sex education will encompass:

- Appropriate touch

- Puberty
- Conception

These are taught in an age-appropriate manner. For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

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).

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The governing board

The governing body will approve the RSE policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

7.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-science components of RSE (see section 8).

7.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-science components of RSE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher/PSHE Leader.

7.4 Pupils

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

8. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

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

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher.

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

9. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE as appropriate.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the RSE Leader through:

Learning walks, book scrutinies and staff meetings.

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by the RSE Leader every 2 years. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing body and headteacher.

Appendix 1: Curriculum map

Relationships and sex education curriculum map

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year R	New beginnings (SEAL)	Me – A special person (Hampshire)	Getting on and falling out (SEAL)	People who help us (Hampshire)	Relationships (SEAL)	Being healthy and safe (Hampshire)
Year 1	Road Safety Healthy Eating	Fire safety – Enya and Deedee visit the fire station Bullying	Practise makes perfect Jealousy	Staying safe Online bullying	Money matters Hazards – Is it safe to play with?	Moving on Helping someone in need
Year 2	Tying Shoelaces Washing hands	Friendship Brushing	Water spillage Worry	Image sharing Body language	Money matters Is it safe to drink?	Hoax calling Moving on
Year 3	Leaning out of windows Medicine	Touch Making friends online	Stealing Grief	Computer safety Petty arson	Money Matters Hazard watch	Moving on Texting whilst driving
Year 4	Cycle safety Healthy living Appropriate touch	Cycle safety Healthy living Appropriate touch	Coming home on time Jealousy Online bullying	Coming home on time Jealousy Online bullying	Chores at home Breaking down barriers Moving on	Chores at home Breaking down barriers Moving on
Year 5	Peer pressure Smoking Puberty	Peer pressure Smoking Puberty	Looking out for others Anger Image sharing	Looking out for others Anger Image sharing	Enterprise Inclusion and acceptance Moving on	Enterprise Inclusion and acceptance Moving on
Year 6	Water safety Alcohol Stealing	Water safety Alcohol Stealing	Worry Making friends online In-App purchases	Worry Making friends online In-App purchases	Conception British values Moving on	Conception British values Moving on

Appendix 2: By the end of primary school pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families and people who care about me	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability• The characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives• That others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care• That stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up• That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong• How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed
Caring friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends• The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties• That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded• That most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right• How to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Respectful relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs • Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships • The conventions of courtesy and manners • The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness • That in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority • About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help • What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive • The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults
Online relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not • That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous • The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them • How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met • How information and data is shared and used online

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context) • About the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe • That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact • How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know • How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult • How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard • How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so • Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources

Appendix 3: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	Include notes from discussions with parents and agreed actions taken. Eg: Joe Bloggs will be taking part in all relationships lessons and during the sex education lessons, he will be working independently on a project in the Year 5 classroom