

Egerton Church of England Primary School

Together, we inspire, nurture and thrive



Perseverance **Compassion** **Respect** **Honesty** **Forgiveness** **Hope**

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Key Contact Personnel in School

Mrs Julia Walker

Headteacher

Mrs Gill Morrissey

SENCO and PSHE Lead

Date written: **May 2024**

Date agreed and ratified by Governing Body: **May 2024**

Date of next review: **May 2027**



This policy will be reviewed every three years.

School Vision

Egerton inspires joy in life by cherishing childhood within a rich and creative learning journey. Our Christian values influence all decisions enabling our community to flourish. We nurture everyone to reach their full potential as God intends, mind, body and soul.

Introduction

At Egerton CEP School we have based our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy on the DfE guidance document, [Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) and Health Education Guidance](#) (September 2021). In this document RSE is defined as ‘learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.’ RSE is part of the personal, social and health education in our school; it promotes good behaviour and promotes the children’s spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development. This definition supports the Christian ethos of the school, and reflects Diocesan education guidance.

Since September 2021, in primary schools, relationships education is a statutory subject and sex education (except that which is specified in the national science curriculum) is non-statutory. From KS3 sex education is statutory.

Statutory Subjects - Our definition of Relationship Education (RE) is as follows:

Relationships Education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up. It is inclusive of all types of families, to help children understand about loving and caring relationships of all types. It should equip children with the information, skills and positive values to have safe relationships, to understand their bodies and to empower them to know they have choice. This subject can support children to develop resilience and to know how and when to ask for help.

Non-Statutory Subjects - Our definition of Sex Education (SE) is as follows:

Sex Education (SE) provides a safe environment for children to have a factual, age appropriate introduction to human reproduction and to ask questions related to this topic. It should enable children to access a safe source of information. Sex Education in this school will always form part of a broader scheme of work presented in conjunction with RE above, therefore, will be referred to as Relationships and Sex Education (RSE).

While we use RSE to inform children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions. We do not use RSE as a means of promoting any form of sexual orientation.

School’s Legal Duty

The Relationship Education, Relationship and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 Children and Social Work Act 2017 make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education in England.

RSE in Practice: Outcomes, Curriculum and Delivery

Outcomes and Values

All content in the RSE curriculum supports the wider work of school in helping to foster pupil well-being and develop resilience and the values that we know are fundamental to pupils being happy, successful and productive members of society.

Outcomes for pupils include:

- Pupils should be able to form a strong, early understanding of the features of relationships that are likely to lead to happiness and security.
- Pupils should be able to recognise any less positive relationships when they encounter them.
- RSE should create the opportunity to teach pupils about positive emotional and mental well-being, including how friendships can support our mental well-being.
- RSE should contribute to the prevention of abuse and protection of children, by teaching the knowledge they need to be safe and to report abuse, including emotional, physical and sexual abuse.
- Children should be prepared for the physiological and emotional changes they will go through during puberty, where possible before these occur. Understanding that these are natural and normal changes.

Egerton CEP School's RSE curriculum has no religious association and is taught in both faith and non-denominational schools across the UK. It is a considered programme that has been awarded the PSHE Association quality mark and adheres to the values below:

- Equality is not always about treating everyone the same – it is about treating people in such a way that the outcome for each pupil can be the same.
- Tolerance is to understand that not everybody is the same and have the willingness to accept this.
- Honesty is being truthful and open at an age appropriate level, that allows pupils to learn and understand.
- Support is to work together with pupils' families to provide guidance and care for children.
- Respect is valuing each person as an individual of importance, as well as the beliefs of their family and community.
- Empower is to equip children with knowledge to keep them safe, healthy and happy.
- Sensitivity is having an awareness of the feelings of others and responding accordingly.
- Trust is ensuring children have a safe space to learn and discuss.
- Empathy is the ability to identify and understand the feelings of others and offer them support.

These values aid us in ensuring a safe and positive place for children to learn which also build on our school's six Christian values, particularly Respect. It also sits within our overriding vision for the school, which includes: 'enabling our community to flourish.'

The work that we complete within RSE allows us to further embed the principles of ['Valuing All God's Children'](#) as it allows us to identify same-sex relationships, gender confusion and also self-image confidence issues. Egerton CEP School is a tolerant and welcoming school and the work we complete in this area is a crucial part of us nurturing all to thrive.

Curriculum

Our school uses 'Teaching RSE with confidence in Primary Schools' written by the Christopher Winter Project (CWP). It is a comprehensive and inclusive resource which meets the requirements of Statutory Guidance released from the Department for Education on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, Regulation 2019

- Please see the RSE curriculum pages on the [school website](#).
- Special note: Within our school we use the scientific language for the genitals from the outset. It is usual that boys have a penis and girls have a vulva, the children will be taught that whilst they may call these areas something else at home, at school we use the scientific words.

Delivery of RSE

The class teacher will teach RSE. This resource will be used in Reception through to Year 6 and includes an overview of a spiral curriculum for RSE, schemes of work and lesson plans that combine a range of teaching styles, active learning techniques and interesting teaching materials.

The governing body has wider responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010, to ensure that no pupil(s) are discriminated against because of their sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, educational needs, religion or belief, nationality, ethnic or national origin, pregnancy, maternity or home circumstances (e.g. looked after children).

The CWP resources have been designed to be inclusive and accessible to most children including those whose first language is not English. During these lessons any pupils with additional needs will be identified by their teacher and every provision made to help them join in during the RSE lessons. If a pupil is unable to take part in their usual class group for any reason, every endeavour will be made for them to attend a session best matched to their ability level.

Pupils with SEND can be more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues. Egerton CEP School takes into consideration the 'Preparing for Adulthood' outcomes from the SEND code of practice.

Up to and including year 4, all lessons will be co-educational, however in Years 5 and 6 these will be separated by gender (please note that lesson content is the same). For any children identifying as transgender, the school will liaise with the child's guardian to determine which group the child would be most comfortable with. The school will keep a record of individual provision of RSE by keeping a record of absences from RSE lessons and ensure children are 'caught up' should parents allow in subsequent years. For pupils who are absent on the day of an RSE lesson, teaching staff will review the missed lesson content with the child on their return to school.

Parents and Relationships and Sex Education

We appreciate the sensitivity and concerns some parents may feel towards RSE and therefore, we invite parents to discuss the materials we use in school. We believe that for the children to achieve the desired objectives, a positive and united relationship must continue to exist between home and school and we would encourage discussion about this area of the curriculum at home. In promoting this objective, we:

- Inform parents/carers about the school's RSE policy and practice
- Inform parents/carers before key topics are delivered
- Answer any questions that parents/carers may have about RSE of their child

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-science components of sex education within RSE. These elements include human conception - how a baby is made. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 1 of this policy and addressed to the Headteacher who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the RSE curriculum until the request for withdrawal has been removed. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

Parents do not have a right to withdraw their child from the science curriculum where children learn about growth and reproduction in plants and animals, including the names of parts of the human body, and also puberty.

Children's Questions

In order to promote a healthy, positive atmosphere for RSE, Egerton CEP School wants to ensure that pupils can ask questions freely, confident that they will be answered, and be sure that they will be free from bullying or harassment from other pupils. Egerton CEP School believes that children are best educated, protected from harm and exploitation by discussing issues openly within the context of the RSE curriculum. Teachers will develop ground rules for RSE with the whole class, refer to them regularly and encourage the pupils to do so, agreeing as a class not to ask personal questions.

Equal Opportunities

Egerton CEP School is committed to working towards equal opportunities in all areas of school life. We aim to avoid stereotyping and believe that pupils' religious beliefs and cultural differences should also be respected.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct RSE lessons in a sensitive manner and with consideration for the need for confidentiality. But should issues of disclosure regarding inappropriate sexual behaviour/ activity arise, the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection. In such cases, procedures as laid down in the appropriate Egerton CEP School policy will be followed.

Monitoring and Review

The RSE curriculum and its delivery is monitored by the headteacher who will ensure that each year group is adhering to the RSE policy and that there is full coverage of all prescribed topics. Drop-ins and pupil voice will form part of the monitoring process. Elements of the RSE curriculum are assessed and evaluated using a variety of AFL (Assessment for Learning) activities. This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the governing body every three years.

Linked Policies

This policy is linked to:

- Safeguarding policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Child protection policy
- Confidentiality policy
- SEN policy

Appendix 1: 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	