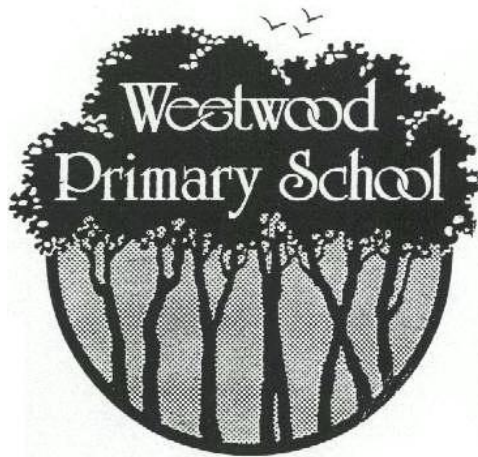


Relationship and sex education policy

Weetwood Primary School



Approved by:	Governing Body	Date: July 2026
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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

2. Statutory requirements

As a maintained primary school, we must provide relationships education to all pupils under section 34 of the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#).

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](#).

We must also have regard to our legal duties set out in:

- Sections 406 and 407 of the Education Act 1996
- Part 6, chapter 1 of the [Equality Act 2010](#)
- The Public Sector Equality Duty (as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). This duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities.

At Weetwood, we teach RSE as set out in this policy using the Jigsaw scheme of work.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and stakeholders. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review – a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Parental consultation – all parents/carers were given the opportunity to look at the guidance and make recommendations
3. Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
4. 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 RSE curriculum is set out as per Appendix 2 (sections 'relationships' and 'changing me'), but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

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

We will share all curriculum materials with parents and carers upon request.

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 2.

Sex education is not compulsory in primary schools; however, the Department for Education recommends that all primary schools teach age-appropriate sex education to ensure children are prepared for the changes adolescence brings and understand how human life begins.

At Weetwood, our approach to sex education is:

We teach age-appropriate sex education in Years 5 and 6 as part of our PSHE curriculum, going beyond the statutory content about puberty to include factual information about human reproduction. We believe this information is important for children before they leave primary school, particularly as children naturally become more aware and curious about how life begins, and may seek information from less reliable sources if we do not provide age-appropriate, factual teaching. We define sex education as learning about human reproduction. It is defined as those lessons covering sexual intercourse, conception, the stages of pregnancy and birth. It includes the emotional impact of having a baby as well as the physical facts.

This is distinct from the statutory Health Education content about puberty and menstruation, and from Science curriculum content about life cycles and reproduction in mammals, from which children cannot be withdrawn.

The following Jigsaw lessons in the Changing Me Puzzle contain non-statutory sex education content:

Year 5: Conception

Year 6: Babies: Conception to Birth

6. Delivery of RSE

We deliver statutory Relationships and Health Education within our comprehensive PSHE programme, using materials from Jigsaw PSHE 3-11. This provides children with a carefully sequenced, age-appropriate curriculum that meets all statutory requirements whilst also developing wider personal and social capabilities. Our PSHE curriculum also supports our safeguarding responsibilities as set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education and the Prevent Duty, helping children to recognise concerns, stay safe online and offline, and seek help when needed.

Our curriculum addresses all statutory requirements including:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful, kind relationships
- Online safety and awareness
- Being safe
- Mental wellbeing
- Internet safety and harms
- Physical health and fitness
- Healthy eating
- Drugs, alcohol, tobacco and vaping
- Health protection and prevention
- Basic first aid
- Developing bodies (including puberty as part of Health Education)

At Weetwood, these areas of learning are taught within the context of family life, taking care to make sure 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 and 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).

We will also be mindful of the law and legal requirements, taking care not to condone or encourage illegal political activity, such as violent action against people, criminal damage to property, hate crime, terrorism or the illegal use of drugs.

6.1 Inclusivity

We will teach about these topics in a manner that:

- Considers how a diverse range of pupils will relate to them
- Is sensitive to all pupils' experiences
- During lessons, makes pupils feel:
 - Safe and supported
 - Able to engage with the key messages

We will also:

- Make sure that pupils learn about these topics in an environment that's appropriate for them, for example in:
 - A whole-class setting
 - Small groups or targeted sessions
 - 1-to-1 discussions
 - Digital formats
- Give careful consideration to the level of differentiation needed

6.2 Use of resources

We will consider whether any resources we plan to use:

- Are aligned with the teaching requirements set out in the statutory RSE guidance
- Would support pupils in applying their knowledge in different contexts and settings
- Are age-appropriate, given the age, developmental stage and background of our pupils
- Are evidence-based and contain robust facts and statistics
- Fit into our curriculum plan
- Are from credible sources
- Are compatible with effective teaching approaches
- Are sensitive to pupils' experiences and won't provoke distress

7. Use of external organisations and materials

We will make sure that any external agencies and any materials used are appropriate and in line with our legal duties around political impartiality.

The school remains responsible for what is said to pupils. This includes making sure that any speakers, tools and resources used don't undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

We will:

- Make appropriate checks and engage with external agencies to make sure that their approach to teaching about RSE is balanced, and it and the resources they intend to use:
 - Are age-appropriate
 - Are in line with pupils' developmental stage
 - Comply with:
 - This policy
 - The [Teachers' Standards](#)
 - The [Equality Act 2010](#)
 - The [Human Rights Act 1998](#)
 - The [Education Act 1996](#)
 - The DFE 2025 RSE guidance
- Only work with external agencies where we have full confidence in the agency, its approach and the resources it uses.

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 The governing board

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

8.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, for sharing resources and materials with parents and carers, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE (see section 9).

8.3 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/carers wish them to be withdrawn from the [non-statutory/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.

Mrs N Parker is the designated member of staff with responsibility for coordinating SRE. All SRE lessons are taught by class teachers.

8.4 Pupils

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

9. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents/carers do not have the right to withdraw their child from relationships education.

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

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

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

10. 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.

11. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by Mrs N Parker through:

Planning and book scrutinise, learning walks, pupil voice and feedback from teachers delivering the lessons.

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

This policy will be reviewed by staff every three years or sooner should guidelines change. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing body.

Appendix 1: 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 2: Curriculum map

PSHE Knowledge Content Snapshot Overview

Age group	Being Me In My World	Celebrating Difference	Dreams and Goals	Healthy Me	Relationships	Changing Me
Ages 3-5	Self-identity Understanding feelings Being in a classroom Being gentle Rights and responsibilities	Identifying talents Being special Families Where we live Making friends Standing up for yourself	Challenges Perseverance Achieving and setting goals Overcoming obstacles Seeking help Jobs	Exercising bodies Physical activity Healthy food Sleep Keeping clean Safety	Family life Friendships Breaking friendships Falling out Dealing with bullying Being a good friend	Bodies Respecting my body Growing up Growth and change Fun and fears Celebrations
Ages 5-6	Feeling special and safe Being part of a class Rights and responsibilities Rewards and feeling proud Consequences Owing the learning charter	Similarities and differences Understanding bullying and knowing how to deal with it Making new friends Celebrating the differences in everyone	Setting goals Identifying successes and achievements Learning styles Working well and celebrating achievement with a partner Tackling new challenges Identifying and overcoming obstacles Feelings of success	Keeping myself healthy Healthier lifestyle choices Keeping clean Being safe Medicine safety/ safety with household items Road safety Linking health and happiness	Belonging to a family Making friends/being a good friend Physical contact preferences People who help us Qualities as a friend and person Self-acknowledgement Being a good friend to myself Celebrating special relationships	Life cycles – animal and human Changes in me Changes since being a baby Differences between female and male bodies (correct terminology) Linking growing and learning Coping with change Transition

PSHE Knowledge Content Snapshot Overview

Age group	Being Me In My World	Celebrating Difference	Dreams and Goals	Healthy Me	Relationships	Changing Me
Ages 6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hopes and fears for the year Rights and responsibilities Rewards and consequences Safe and fair learning environment Valuing contributions Choices Recognising feelings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assumptions and stereotypes about gender Understanding bullying Standing up for self and others Making new friends Celebrating difference and remaining friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieving realistic goals Staying healthy to achieve goals Perseverance and strengths Learning with others Group co-operation Contributing to and sharing success 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motivation Healthier choices Healthy eating and nutrition Safety in the home Safety out and about Medicines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different types of family Physical contact boundaries Friendship and conflict Secrets Trust and appreciation Expressing appreciation for special relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life cycles in nature Growing from young to old Increasing independence Differences in female and male bodies (correct terminology) Assertiveness Preparing for transition
Ages 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting personal goals Self-identity and worth Positivity in challenges Rules, rights and responsibilities Rewards and consequences Responsible choices Seeing things from others' perspectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families and their differences Family conflict and how to manage it (child-centred) Witnessing bullying and how to solve it Recognising how words can be hurtful Giving and receiving compliments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficult challenges and achieving success Dreams and ambitions Motivation and enthusiasm Recognising and trying to overcome obstacles Evaluating learning Processes Contributing to the community Managing feelings Simple budgeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercise Food labelling and healthy swaps Attitudes towards drugs Keeping safe online and off line Respect for myself and others Healthy and safe choices outdoors Water safety Asking for help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family roles and responsibilities Friendship and negotiation Keeping safe online and who to go to for help Media influence Being a global citizen How my choices affect others Awareness of other children's different lives Expressing appreciation for family and friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How babies grow Outside body changes Inside body changes Personal hygiene Family stereotypes Challenging my ideas Preparing for transition

PSHE Knowledge Content Snapshot Overview

Age group	Being Me In My World	Celebrating Difference	Dreams and Goals	Healthy Me	Relationships	Changing Me
Ages 8-9	Being part of a class team Being a school citizen Rights, responsibilities and democracy (school council) Rewards and consequences Group decision-making Having a voice What motivates behaviour	Challenging assumptions Judging by appearance Accepting self and others Understanding influences Understanding bullying Problem-solving Identifying how special and unique everyone is First impressions	Hopes and dreams Overcoming disappointment Creating new realistic dreams Achieving goals Working in a group Celebrating contributions Resilience Positive attitudes	Healthier friendships Peer influences Railway safety Staying safe with friends Smoking Alcohol and vaping Assertiveness Peer pressure Celebrating inner strength	Jealousy Love and loss Memories of loved ones Getting and Falling Out Girlfriends and Boyfriends Showing appreciation to people and animals	Being unique Girls and puberty Being part of a family Confidence in change Accepting change Preparing for transition Environmental change
Ages 9-10	Planning the year ahead Being a citizen Rights and responsibilities Rewards and consequences How behaviour affects groups Democracy, having a voice, participating	Cultural differences and how they can cause conflict Racism Rumours and name-calling Types of bullying Materials wealth and happiness Enjoying and respecting other cultures	Future dreams Spending, saving and value of money Jobs and careers Dream job and how to get there Goals in different cultures Supporting others (charity) Motivation	Smoking including vaping Alcohol and vaping Alcohol and anti-social behaviour Emergency aid Body image Relationships with food Healthy choices Motivation and behaviour	Self-recognition/ self-worth Building self-esteem Safer online communities Rights and responsibilities online Online gaming and risks Reducing screen time Dangers of online grooming Internet safety rules	Self- and body image Influence of online and media on body image Puberty for girls Puberty for boys <i>Conception (including IVF)</i> Growing responsibility Coping with change Preparing for transition

PSHE Knowledge Content Snapshot Overview

Age group	Being Me In My World	Celebrating Difference	Dreams and Goals	Healthy Me	Relationships	Changing Me
Ages 10-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying goals for the year Global citizenship Children's universal rights Feeling welcome and valued Choices, consequences and rewards Group dynamics Democracy, having a voice Anti-social behaviour Role-modelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perceptions of normality Understanding disability Power struggles Understanding bullying Inclusion/exclusion Differences as conflict, difference as celebration Empathy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal learning goals, in and out of school Success criteria Emotions in success Making a difference in the world Motivation Recognising achievements Compliments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking personal responsibility How substances affect the body Exploitation including 'county lines' and gang culture Emotional and mental health Managing stress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental health Identifying mental health worries and sources of support Love and loss Managing feelings Power and control Assertiveness Technology safety Take responsibility with technology use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-image Body-image Puberty and feelings <i>Conception to birth</i> Reflections about change Physical attraction Respect and consent Boyfriends/girlfriends Sexting Transition
Ages 11-12 (Scotland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal identity What influences personal identity Identify personal strengths How do others see me? Group identity My growing sense of personal identity and independence Online and global identity Expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assertiveness Prejudice and discrimination My values and those of others Challenging stereotypes Discrimination in school How prejudice and discrimination fuels bullying Being inclusive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are my dreams and goals? Steps to success Coping when things don't go to plan Rewarding my dreams intrinsic and extrinsic motivation Keeping my dreams alive How dreams and goals change in response to life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy choices about my emotional health Managing stress Managing my choices around substances Managing my nutritional choices Medicines and immunisation Healthy choices about physical activity and rest/sleep 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My changing web of friendships Support I need now and in the future Developing positive relationships What external factors affect relationships e.g. media influences? Assertiveness in relationships The changing role of families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My changing body and feelings What is self-image? Coping during times of change My changing ways of thinking Managing my changes in mood Moving forwards into my next year of education

