



RSE Policy

Temple Grove Academy

2023-2024

Approved by:	The Governing Body	Date: May 2023
Last reviewed on:	May 2023	
Next review due by:	May 2024	



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Our school's policy on Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is based on the new government guidance for RSE:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805781/Relationships Education Relationships and Sex Education RSE and Health Education.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805781/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of the policy is to:

- Give information to staff, parents and carers, governors, pupils and outside visitors about the content, organisation and approach to teaching RSE.
- Enable parents and carers to support their children in learning about RSE.

Links to other policies and curriculum areas

This policy links to the Science curriculum, PSHCE curriculum and the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy. We aim to teach as much of the content as is possible through the Science and PSHCE curriculums whilst teaching aspects discreetly through other means, e.g. circle time.

Definition of RSE

Relationship and Sex Education is not just about learning about growing up, changes and reproduction. It is also about enabling children to make and maintain trusting relationships with others and to feel good about themselves and the choices they make. This involves helping children to gain knowledge, develop skills and form positive beliefs and attitudes.

Why RSE is relevant in primary education:

- It prepares children for the physical and emotional changes that will take place, especially at puberty.
- It helps develop positive attitudes, values and self-esteem and challenges negative attitudes and prejudices.
- It helps make sense of misinformation in the media and from peers.
- It provides an opportunity to talk about feelings and relationships in a safe environment.
- It promotes the skills necessary for effective communication and loving, caring, respectful and happy trusting relationships.
- It protects children from sexual exploitation and inappropriate online content.
- It provides an age-appropriate response to children's needs in an ever-changing society.

Content and Organisation of the Programme



From September 2020, RSE will be taught through a planned programme in PSHCE as well as in science. This will ensure that it covers the statutory biological aspects, but also the social and emotional aspects. It is taught throughout the years, either as discrete topics or integrated into other topics such as Health and Wellbeing or Living in the wider world. (Please see the PSHCE progression of skills which outlines the content covered across the school and within each year group.)

In Science lessons, in both Key Stages, teachers inform children about puberty and how a baby is born. For this aspect of our teaching, we follow the guidance material found in the national scheme of work for Science. In Key Stage 1, we teach children about how animals, including humans, move, feed, grow and reproduce, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body. Children learn to appreciate the fact that people are not all the same, and that we need to respect each other. In Key Stage 2, we teach about life processes, and the main stages of the human life cycle, in greater depth.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT)

In order to prepare children for the diverse society they live in and to prevent bullying and discrimination, it is important to talk about difference in general and different families in particular. At Temple Grove, the children learn about and celebrate different family structures primarily through our PSHCE scheme of work and the science scheme of work.

The Government state that:

At Temple Grove we follow the PSHCE SCARF scheme. Scarf plans anticipate and encourage the inclusion of people with LGBT identities in discussions from the early years, where children are also encouraged to talk about the people who are special to them and who provide a nurturing environment. SCARF includes LGBT identities content throughout the school years as part of a spiral curriculum and teaching about this is integrated into lessons about families, partnerships, similarities and differences, stereotyping, prejudice,

It should be noted that Ofsted have released guidance about how they will inspect schools and that *"...it is important that all children gain an understanding of the world they are growing up in, and learn how to live alongside, and show respect for, a diverse range of people. When we inspect schools, we assess how well they equip children to do this."* Ofsted 19/04/21

Right to withdraw

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from RSE, apart from the statutory aspects of the national curriculum. This means that parents and carers cannot withdraw their children from RSE aspects of the science national curriculum. From September 2020, health and relationship elements within the PSHCE curriculum will also be statutory. RSE



elements taught through the PSHCE curriculum however, which are not within the Science curriculum, remain non-statutory with the right to withdraw a child. This is in line with DfE statutory guidance 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education. Prior to the teaching of the non-statutory RSE curriculum, the content will be shared with parents so that they may make an informed choice and decide whether they wish to withdraw their child.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct RSE lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved (or likely to be involved) in sexual activity, then the teacher will take the reference seriously, and deal with it as a matter of child protection. Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that they have been a victim of abuse.

They will not try to investigate but will immediately inform the designated safe-guarding lead.

The role of the parents and carers

The school is well aware that parents/carers have a primary role in child sex education. We therefore wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents and carers of the children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

We ask that any issue that parents or carers have about this policy or about arrangements for RSE in the school be flagged up to relevant staff.

The role of the staff

It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that the RSE policy is implemented effectively. Class teachers are responsible for teaching RSE and HE (Health Education) in line with the policy and government guidance.

Monitoring and review

The school gives serious consideration to any comments from parents and carers about the RSE policy or programme of study and will maintain a record of all such comments. The school will also monitor and review teaching and learning. This will be done through pupil voice and the marking of children's work by each class teacher. The curriculum and policies will be tracked by the PSHCE coordinator.

