



Dukesgate Academy

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Relationships and Sex Education Policy 2025-2026

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Introduction

This policy sets out our school's approach to Relationships and Sex Education.

The Department for Education states that from September 2020 primary schools must teach Relationships and Health education to all pupils.

Within the statutory guidance document for Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education, Relationships Education is defined as "teaching about the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults." (DFE, 2019)

Your child will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them. In an age-appropriate way, your child will learn how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect.

Health Education aims to "teach pupils about physical health and mental wellbeing to give them the information that they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, and to seek support as early as possible when issues arise."

Sex Education is defined as teaching children how human reproduction occurs, including how a baby is conceived. This draws on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science.

Its objective is to enable pupils to learn about:

- (i) families and people who care for them, including the nature of marriage and civil partnership and their importance for family life and the bringing up of children,
 - (ii) forming and maintaining caring relationships,
 - (iii) the characteristics of healthy and respectful relationships, including online.
 - (iv) How relationships may affect physical and mental health and wellbeing, and how to ensure they are safe
- and
- (v) intimate and sexual relationships including sexual health at an age-appropriate level.

Sex education is not compulsory in primary schools. However, the DFE recommends “that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born” (DFE, 2019)

As such United Learning have made the decision that all its primary schools should teach sex education to ensure children are suitably prepared for the transition to secondary school.

Parental and staff involvement regarding the policy

At Dukesgate Academy we seek to work with parents, carers and staff in order to provide an effective RSE curriculum for all learners. We will consult with them on the formation of the policy and any changes we make to the policy.

Teaching and Learning Objectives

At Dukesgate Academy we have chosen to use the Kapow scheme of work, which provides full curriculum coverage, including all the statutory content, for each year group. Content is divided into the following areas:

- Family and relationships
- Health and wellbeing
- Safety and the changing body
- Citizenship
- Economic wellbeing
- Identity
- Transition

Follow this link to view the Kapow Primary RSE curriculum overview.

<https://www.kapowprimary.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RSE-Overview-23-08-22.pdf>

We will inform parents about what their child will be learning by sending out a copy of the RSE

curriculum overview of the topics that will be covered in their child’s year group. Parents/ carers will

have the opportunity to voice their opinions or ask questions about the curriculum we teach.

Information about what is taught and why can be found in the curriculum section on our school website.

Parental right to withdraw children

Parents will have the right to withdraw their child from some or all of the sex education provided that goes beyond the sex education taught under the science curriculum.

At Dukesgate Academy we teach Sex Education to Year 6 in the Summer term through our topic Safety and the changing body. The Kapow Primary lessons that are deemed to be sex education are:

- Conception
- Pregnancy and birth

You will be able to withdraw your child from these lessons.

The school will send a letter home before we teach these lessons in the Summer term to inform parents of their right to withdraw their children from the lessons above.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the headteacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from RSE.

The Principal will automatically grant a request to withdraw a pupil from any sex education delivered in a primary school, other than as part of the science curriculum with pupils in Nursery to Year 5.

Parents no longer have the right to withdraw their children from any other parts of the RSE curriculum.

RSE linked to Science

Children will follow up some areas of the Science Curriculum with discrete PSHE lessons. Children will be taught the scientific names for all body parts including genitalia, as part of the science curriculum.

Children will be taught about changes in their body including puberty in Years 5 and 6 as part of Health Education. They will also be taught about sexual and asexual reproduction in

plants and animals including humans. These lessons will be age appropriate.

Sex Education

At Dukesgate Academy we believe that children should be taught some aspects of Sex Education so that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes adolescence brings and that children are taught some aspects of sex education so that they are prepared for the transition to secondary school.

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 are followed up with discrete PSHE lessons.

RSE is usually taught by the class teacher or other experienced staff to ensure that the students feel safe and confident to voice their opinions or ask questions. Before RSE lessons children agree to a set of ground rules with their class to make RSE lessons a safe place to share their thoughts, ask questions and learn about sensitive subjects.

We aim for the RSE curriculum to be taught to all children in our school. We know that our pupils have different needs based on their emotional and physical development, life experiences, and learning differences, but we aim to ensure that all pupils are properly included in RSE. Teachers will plan and deliver work in a variety of ways, in order to meet the needs of individual pupils with SEND. We focus on activities that increase a pupil's assertiveness, communication and relationship skills, their self-esteem and understanding.

Monitoring

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the PSHE subject leader and pupils work: This is done through the monitoring of planning, learning walks, drop ins to lessons and talking to pupils.

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

This policy will be reviewed by the PHSE subject leader annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.

Complaints

Any complaints about the relationships and sex education programme should be made in accordance with the school's usual complaints procedure.