

South East Essex Academy Trust



SEEAT Relationships and Sex Education Policy (RSE) 2026

Title	Relationships and Sex Education Policy (RSE)2026
Author	Caroline Thornton
Owner	Trust Board
Status	New Policy
Ratified Date	September 2026
Ratified by	Education Committee To be adopted by the LGB
Review Cycle	Annual
Review Date	July 2027

Part 1

School Information and Key Contacts

Rochford Primary and Nursery School

School Context

Our RSE curriculum is taught through 3D PSHE resources, in the form of lesson plans and additional resources. The upper key stage 2 elements are supplemented with Medway resources through the PSHE Association, primarily for puberty topics including changing bodies and menstruation. The Medway resources feature PowerPoints and video clips to support learning. We also use additional resources within our computing lessons to support the children's learning of online relationships. Additionally, resources from the PSHE Association are used to supplement and enhance learning related to current online safety issues.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Leader/s:

Miss Lucy Craddick

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mr. Shane Owen (Headteacher)

Mental Health Lead:

Mrs. Mel Hill

Headteacher:

Mr. Shane Owen

Contents

1	School information and key contacts
2	Statement of intent
3	Aims and objectives
4	Statutory requirements
5	Delivery of programme
6 6.1 6.2 6.3	Training Intent Implementation Impact
7	Policy and curriculum development
8	Role and responsibilities
9	Working with parents
10	Parents right to withdraw
11	Equal opportunities

12	Safeguarding
13	Use of resources
14	Use of external agencies and resources
15	Monitoring and review
16	Overview of curriculum and content
16.1	Curriculum Structure
16.2	Safeguarding and curriculum integration
16.3	Primary phase curriculum overview
16.4	Secondary curriculum phase overview
16.5	Curriculum adaption and personalisation
Appendix A	Overview of school specific curriculum content
Appendix B	Guidance on working with external partners to deliver RSE
References	Links to guidance and useful information

2. Statement of Intent

This policy covers the SEEAT (South East Essex Academy Trust) approach to Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). We define 'Relationships and Sex Education' as the exploration of the emotional, social, cultural, and physical aspects of growing up, having sexual relationships, and learning about human sexuality and sexual health.

The Trust recognises the clear distinction between Relationships Education and Sex Education. Relationships Education is statutory in all primary schools, while Sex Education in primary is non-statutory beyond the content included within the national science curriculum. This policy ensures clarity for pupils, parents and staff regarding what is statutory and what is non-statutory.

The intent of our Relationships and Sex Education is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional, and moral development. A successful programme, firmly embedded in PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic), will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood, through adolescence into adulthood.

It is important that we develop a curriculum and culture which educates our children and young people in wider contextual issues. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is a vital part of the wider knowledge required by students to live happy and successful lives, whilst feeling confident in themselves.

We believe RSE is important for our students because it provides children and young people with the information, they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships. It enables students to know what a healthy relationship looks like and be able to recognise the dangers of unhealthy relationships.

We ensure RSE is inclusive and meets the needs of all our students, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) by using fully accessible lesson materials and an open, discussion-led approach in the classroom.

Individual needs are catered for as they would be in any lessons. We ensure RSE fosters gender equality and LGBTQ+ equality by teaching about and promoting awareness of these issues across all year groups. At all times, the teaching of RSE remains respectful of the diversity of humanity and our school community. We believe high quality RSE helps to create a safe school and safe communities as students learn to develop positive behaviour for life.

The intended outcomes of our programmes are that students will:

- Know and understand the emotional, social, cultural, and physical aspects of growing up and having relationships, including sexual relationships, so they can make informed, healthy decisions within the law.
- Understand that they have a right to their own identity and be able to express this, as well as a right to be safe and healthy.

- Understand that they have a responsibility to respect the diversity within humans and the choices that people make.
- Develop the skills of independent critical thought, analysis, and evaluation.

Signed:

Role:

Date:

To be reviewed: July 2027

3. Aims and Objectives of the SEEAT RSE Programme

- To combat ignorance and increase understanding
- To encourage and promote responsible behaviour and ensure that students are aware of the consequences of unsafe sexual behaviour
- To reduce guilt and anxiety
- To encourage all students to have due regard for moral considerations and to act in ways which reflect concern for others as well as themselves
- To promote the ability to make and act upon informed decisions
- To provide opportunities to clarify values and attitudes connected with personal relationships
- To develop social and educational skills for future parents and child carers
- To combat exploitation and challenge sexism
- To discourage early sexual intercourse
- To facilitate, as may be necessary, students' access to further information, help and advice
- To deliver the sex and relationships education programme within a moral framework
- To develop students' self-confidence in dealing with their relationships with others
- To ensure that students are given valid and useful information on contraception
- To develop the students' awareness of differences in society – to combat homophobia and racism
- To equip pupils with the knowledge and skills to identify, challenge and report harmful sexual behaviour, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, coercive behaviour and misogynistic narratives, and to understand how to seek help and support safely.

4. Statutory Requirements

As a cross-phase MAT (Multi Academy Trust), we are required to teach Relationships and Sex Education as part of our curriculum; we must provide RSE to all students under section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

In teaching RSE, we are required by our funding agreements to have regard to guidance issued by the secretary of state, as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

We also have regard to 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) 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. Our schools work within the remit of the DfE (Department for Education) Statutory and compulsory teaching from September 2020.

5. Delivery of the Programme

Whilst the Trust provides the overarching framework for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), individual schools are responsible for:

- designing and delivering a curriculum that reflects their specific context and pupil need
- ensuring that statutory requirements are fully met
- adapting content in response to local safeguarding risks, pupil voice, and emerging issues
- ensuring that teaching is age-appropriate, inclusive and accessible, including for pupils with SEND
- selecting and quality assuring resources and any external providers

Headteachers are accountable for ensuring that RSE is implemented effectively and consistently within their setting.

RSE focuses on giving children and young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds. 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). Some themes are also further developed in assemblies, events and via tutor programmes.

Every school delivers a comprehensive programme of RSE providing accurate information about the body, reproduction, sex, and sexual health. This also provides our young people the essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful, and non-exploitative relationships, and staying safe both on and offline and giving them the ability to make informed life choices.

As pupils progress through secondary education, RSE explicitly includes learning designed to prevent and address sexual harassment and sexual violence, including peer-on-peer abuse, coercive or controlling behaviours, and the influence of harmful online content such as misogynistic narratives or influencers. Teaching focuses on recognising unacceptable behaviour, understanding consent and the law, challenging harmful attitudes, and knowing how and where to seek help.

The programme of study in each setting is relevant to the age and stage of all pupils, from our youngest learners in our primary settings, to our oldest students in post-16 education.

In secondary schools, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is statutory in full and includes learning about intimate relationships, sexual health, consent and the law.

In our primary and junior schools' 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

Some elements may be taught through the computing and Science curriculum. Pupils also receive stand-alone sessions to prepare them for adolescence.

Where schools choose to deliver additional non-statutory Sex Education content, this will be:

- age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate
- delivered sensitively and in line with this policy
- clearly communicated to parents in advance
-

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from non-statutory elements of Sex Education. This right does not apply to Relationships Education or to statutory science content.

In Years 5 & 6 pupils are taught about body changes and what to expect as they grow into adults. Some aspects may be taught in single sex groups. Children with SEN (Special Educational Needs) are taught life skills to equip them in their lives as adults.

The RSE programme progresses as pupils move on to their secondary education, to include:

- Families
- Respectful relationships, including friendships
- Online and media
- Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

Schools will teach about these topics in a manner that:

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

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+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bi or Trans) 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).

RSE programmes are updated to reflect topical issues, which may vary school to school. External experts will be invited to assist from time-to-time with the delivery of the sex and relationship education programme but will comply with the provisions of this policy. Please see Appendix B.

The Trust understands that students with special education needs and disabilities (SEND) are entitled to learn about relationship and sex education, and the programme will be designed to be inclusive of all students.

Responding to Pupils' Questions

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) may raise questions from pupils about topics that are not explicitly covered within the taught curriculum.

All staff are trained to respond to such questions in an age-appropriate, factual and sensitive manner. In responding, staff will:

- provide accurate, general information where appropriate, without going beyond the level of detail defined within the curriculum
- avoid introducing new or explicit content, which is not part of the planned programme, particularly in primary settings
- ensure that responses do not undermine parental decisions where a pupil has been withdrawn from non-statutory sex education
- reinforce key safeguarding messages, including personal safety, consent (where age-appropriate), and knowing how to seek help and support.

Where questions relate to more detailed aspects of sex education, staff may:

- acknowledge the question and explain that this will be covered at a later stage (if appropriate), or
- encourage the pupil to discuss the matter with their parent or carer

In all cases, teachers will use their professional judgement and, where necessary, seek guidance from the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or senior leaders.

If a question or discussion raises a safeguarding concern, staff will follow the school's safeguarding procedures in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education.

If students ask questions outside this policy, staff will respond appropriately so they are fully informed and do not seek answers online.

For more information about an individual school's RSE curriculum, please refer to Appendix 1.

6. Training

6.1 Intent

The Trust is committed to ensuring that all staff delivering Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) are equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to deliver a high-quality, age-appropriate and safeguarding-informed curriculum. Training is designed to ensure that RSE contributes effectively to the prevention of harm, supports a strong safeguarding culture, and reflects current statutory guidance, including Relationships and Sex Education guidance and Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

6.2 Implementation

All staff teaching RSE across the Trust will receive regular and appropriate training, which will:

- Ensure staff are up to date with statutory RSE guidance and curriculum expectations, including 2026 updates
- Reflect emerging safeguarding priorities, including:
 - sexual harassment and sexual violence
 - harmful sexual behaviour
 - coercive and controlling relationships
 - online harms and exploitation
 - misogyny and harmful online influences
- Support staff to deliver sensitive and potentially controversial topics confidently and appropriately

Training will include:

- Curriculum knowledge and sequencing – ensuring staff understand what is taught, when, and why
- Pedagogical approaches – creating safe learning environments and managing discussion
- Safeguarding practice – recognising and responding to disclosures, including peer-on-peer abuse and online-facilitated harm
- Professional boundaries and confidentiality, including when information must be shared

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) will play a key role in supporting staff by:

- providing safeguarding guidance linked to RSE delivery
- ensuring staff understand reporting procedures and thresholds for concern

Leaders responsible for RSE will ensure that:

- all staff delivering RSE are appropriately trained and supported
- staff remain up to date with policy changes and curriculum developments
- training is responsive to emerging needs, based on:

- pupil voice
- safeguarding trends
- staff confidence and feedback

Where appropriate, schools will:

- engage external professionals to support staff training
- provide opportunities for collaborative working and sharing best practice across the Trust

6.3 Impact

As a result of effective training:

- staff will deliver RSE with confidence, consistency and sensitivity
- pupils will receive a high-quality, coherent curriculum that prepares them for the realities of modern life
- staff will be able to:
 - manage discussions appropriately
 - respond effectively to questions and disclosures
 - identify and act on safeguarding concerns

Trained staff will also be able to:

- provide pupils with accurate information and guidance
- signpost to appropriate support services
- contribute to a whole-school safeguarding approach, ensuring that RSE is fully integrated within the school's safeguarding systems

7. Policy & Curriculum Development

The sex and relationship education programme in each school is developed in conjunction with the views of teachers and students, in accordance with DfE recommendations and the support of the national PSHE Association - www.pshe-association.org.uk

Individual sex and relationship education programmes are also directed by the research findings and reflect the results of student responses to surveys and questionnaires.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Body will:

- Provide strategic oversight of RSE across the Trust
- Ensure compliance with statutory guidance

- Monitor and evaluate the impact of the RSE Policy, to hold headteachers to account for its implementation

Headteachers

Headteachers are accountable for the implementation and quality of RSE within their school.

Headteachers will:

- Ensure that RSE is taught consistently across the school
- Manage parental engagement and requests to withdraw students from non-statutory components of RSE
- ensure curriculum reflects local need and safeguarding context
- Monitor student progress and development of their knowledge.

Staff will:

- Deliver RSE in a sensitive way
- Model positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitor student progress and development of their knowledge
- Respond to the needs of each individual student
- Respond appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from non-statutory components of the RSE curriculum.

Staff do not have the right to opt out of delivering RSE. Those who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher.

All form tutors, science teachers and religious education teachers are responsible for delivering the RSE curriculum.

Students will:

- Be expected to engage fully in RSE
- Respond and interact with others in a civil and respectful manner
- Approach topics and points for discussion sensitively, bearing in mind situations that their peers may be facing outside school
- Be open-minded and refrain from judging others.

9. Working with Parents

The role of parents and carers in the development of their children's understanding of relationships is fundamental. Parents are the first educators of their children and play a key role in supporting their emotional, social and moral development. Schools work in partnership with parents to ensure that pupils receive a consistent, accurate and age-appropriate understanding of relationships, health and wellbeing.

The Trust is committed to working transparently and collaboratively with parents and carers. Schools will provide clear, accessible information about the RSE curriculum, including what will be taught and the reasons why, particularly where content supports pupils' safety and wellbeing.

In line with statutory guidance, schools will consult with parents and carers when developing and reviewing their RSE policy and curriculum. This consultation will provide meaningful opportunities for parents to:

- understand the purpose, content and structure of the RSE programme
- ask questions and seek clarification
- share their views, which will be considered as part of the school's decision-making

Schools will ensure that parents and carers can access:

- up-to-date RSE policy documentation
- curriculum overviews outlining what is taught at each stage

In addition, schools will provide parents with a representative sample of teaching materials as part of their communication and consultation processes. All materials used within the RSE curriculum will be made available to parents on request, to ensure full transparency and support understanding of the content being delivered.

Opportunities for engagement will be provided through a range of approaches, which may include:

- information published on school websites
- newsletters and written communications
- parent information sessions, workshops or webinars
- parents' evenings and individual discussions
- surveys and consultation exercises

This engagement is an important opportunity to strengthen shared understanding of how RSE supports:

- pupils' safety and safeguarding, including recognising risk and harmful behaviour
- pupils' wellbeing and personal development
- pupils' ability to form healthy, respectful relationships

Schools will respond to parental queries and concerns sensitively and professionally, ensuring that:

- statutory content is delivered in line with guidance
- parents are supported to understand the safeguarding rationale underpinning the curriculum

10. Parents' Right to Withdraw

Parents and guardians, have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the headteacher of the child's school, outlining the reason for their request. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the student's educational record. If necessary, the Headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Alternative schoolwork will be given to students who are withdrawn from sex education.

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from Relationships Education or from the statutory elements of the science curriculum.

11. Equal Opportunities

The Trust understands and abides by The Equality Act 2010 and fully respects the rights of students and staff members, regardless of any protected characteristics that he/she / they may have.

Our academies are dedicated to delivering the sex and relationship education programme with sensitivity and respect, avoiding any derogatory or prejudicial terms or language which may cause offence.

Our schools will ensure that teachers only express their personal views or beliefs, in the context of providing equal opportunity and tolerance for all, when delivering the programme.

12. Safeguarding

Our RSE curriculum plays a key preventative role in safeguarding children and young people. It equips pupils with the knowledge and skills to recognise, challenge and seek support in relation to harmful behaviours, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, coercive or controlling behaviour, misogynistic attitudes, and harmful sexual behaviour, both online and offline. The curriculum supports pupils to understand healthy relationships, recognise risk, and develop the confidence to report concerns and access support at the earliest opportunity.

Schools recognise that issues explored through RSE, including child-on-child abuse, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other forms of harmful sexual behaviour, may constitute safeguarding concerns. This includes behaviours that take place in person or are facilitated online, such as the sharing of self-generated sexual images, online exploitation, or exposure to harmful content and attitudes. Staff are vigilant to the ways in which online harms, including those linked to social media, misinformation, emerging technologies and risks associated with AI-generated content, deepfakes and digital manipulation, may influence pupils' attitudes, behaviours and safety.

All staff understand that safeguarding is a whole-school responsibility and that RSE contributes to a strong safeguarding culture by enabling pupils to recognise when something is wrong and to seek help. Schools adopt a proactive approach to early help, supporting pupils to identify concerns at an early stage and ensuring that appropriate support is in place.

When disclosures or concerns arise, including those relating to peer-on-peer abuse, harmful sexual behaviour, or online-facilitated harm, staff follow the school's safeguarding procedures in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education. Concerns are reported promptly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), who will take appropriate action in line with statutory guidance.

Schools are aware that content within the RSE curriculum may raise sensitive issues. Staff are therefore trained to manage discussions carefully and respond to disclosures appropriately. All teachers are aware of the four categories of abuse—physical, emotional, sexual and neglect—and understand that these can overlap and may present in a range of contexts, including within peer relationships.

All staff across the Trust receive regular safeguarding training, including updates on emerging risks such as online harms, exploitation, and harmful sexual behaviour. Staff are also aware of specific safeguarding duties, including the requirement to report known cases of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) involving children under 18 to the police.

Confidentiality within the classroom is an important element of effective RSE. Ground rules are established to support respectful discussion; however, pupils are made aware that staff cannot promise confidentiality where a safeguarding concern arises. In such cases, information will be shared in line with safeguarding procedures to ensure that children and young people are protected.

13. 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 students in applying their knowledge in different contexts and settings
- Are age-appropriate, given the age, developmental stage, and background of our students
- 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 students' experiences and will not provoke distress.

Appropriate diagrams, videos, discussion, and practical activities will be used to assist learning. Inappropriate images, videos, etc. will not be used, and resources will be selected with sensitivity given to the age, religion, and cultural background of all students.

Students will be prevented from accessing inappropriate materials on the internet when using such to assist with their learning. The prevention measures taken to ensure this are outlined in the schools the schools Online Safety Policy, and Acceptable Terms of Use Agreement.

14. Use of External Organisations and Materials

Many of the resources used throughout the RSE curriculum are school generated, however some are created with the help of outside agencies such as the 'Prince Charming Theatre Company,' the school nursing service (Southend-On-Sea), the Essex Child and Family Well-being Service (Essex) and the NSPCC. The Brook Sexual Health team, and SOS Rape Crisis can provide valuable materials, on consent for example. We will make sure that any agency and or materials used, are appropriate and in line with our legal duties around political impartiality.

15. Monitoring and Review

The personnel responsible for monitoring RSE will differ from school to school, based on the distribution of leadership responsibilities. Please refer to page one, of this policy to view the individual arrangements for the relevant school.

RSE delivery will be monitored and evaluated through line management, learning walks, work sampling, student and parent voice, questionnaires, and curriculum planning documents.

In all schools' students' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed and approved by the board annually and adopted by the schools local governing body. Any changes needed to the policy, including changes to the programme, will be implemented by the Headteacher and / or the identified lead for RSE.

Any changes to the policy will be clearly communicated to all members of staff involved in the sex and relationship education programme.

RSE provision, content and delivery will be regularly monitored by the Head of RSE, in line with the current guidance from the DfE and the needs of our students.

16. Overview of Curriculum Content

This appendix outlines the school-specific curriculum mapping for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). It demonstrates how statutory content is delivered through a sequenced, age-appropriate programme that reflects pupil need, local context and current safeguarding priorities.

Detailed curriculum plans will vary between schools across the Trust; however, all programmes must:

- Be fully aligned with statutory RSE guidance (2026)
- Reflect current safeguarding themes identified in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- Demonstrate clear progression by phase and year group

- Be inclusive and accessible for all pupils, including those with SEND

16.1 Curriculum Structure

RSE is delivered through a planned and progressive curriculum, typically within PSHE, and supported by other areas such as Science, Computing and RE.

Curriculum content is organised under key themes:

- Relationships (including families, friendships and respect)
- Health and wellbeing
- Safety (including online and personal safety)
- Intimate and sexual relationships (secondary phase)

Schools will ensure that learning builds cumulatively, enabling pupils to revisit and deepen understanding over time.

16.2 Safeguarding and Curriculum Integration

The RSE curriculum is designed as a preventative safeguarding curriculum, equipping pupils to:

- Recognise risk and harmful behaviours
- Understand healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Identify when to seek help and how to access support

Across all phases, curriculum content explicitly addresses safeguarding risks, including:

- Child-on-child abuse, including peer-on-peer harmful behaviours
- Harmful sexual behaviour and age-appropriate understanding of boundaries
- Sexual harassment and sexual violence
- Coercive and controlling behaviours in relationships
- Online safeguarding risks, including:
 - exploitation and grooming
 - sharing of self-generated sexual images
 - exposure to inappropriate or harmful online content
 - the influence of social media, misinformation and emerging technologies
- Misogyny, sexualised behaviours and harmful attitudes, including how these may be influenced by online content

Teaching is adapted to reflect:

- the age, stage and understanding of pupils
- local safeguarding trends and emerging risks

16.3 Primary Phase Curriculum Overview

In primary settings, Relationships Education focuses on building foundational knowledge, skills and behaviours, including:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships and staying safe
- Personal safety, boundaries and recognising risk

Pupils are taught to:

- identify trusted adults and seek help
- understand personal boundaries and body ownership
- recognise early signs of unsafe or inappropriate behaviour
- develop respect for others and challenge stereotypes

16.4 Secondary Curriculum Phase Overview

In secondary settings, the curriculum builds on prior learning and includes:

- Families and respectful relationships
- Online safety and media influence
- Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

Curriculum mapping in secondary schools must explicitly include:

- Consent – including legal, ethical and relational understanding
- Sexual harassment and sexual violence – recognising behaviours, impact and reporting
- Harmful sexual behaviour – including peer-on-peer behaviours
- Coercive and controlling behaviour within relationships
- Online influences, including social media, pornography, and harmful content
- Misogyny and harmful gender-based attitudes, including how these develop and can be challenged

Pupils are taught to:

- recognise unhealthy or exploitative relationships
- understand the law in relation to relationships and sexual behaviour
- critically evaluate online content and influences
- develop the confidence to report concerns and seek support

16.5 Curriculum Adaption and Personalisation

Schools will personalise curriculum delivery based on:

- pupil need and maturity
- safeguarding context
- SEND requirements
- cultural and community context

Adaptations may include:

- differentiated teaching approaches
- small group or targeted interventions
- additional sessions to address emerging issues

Appendix A – School Specific Curriculum Content

This appendix ensures clarity and transparency in curriculum delivery, demonstrating how statutory RSE content is implemented in a way that is age-appropriate, safeguarding-focused and responsive to the needs of pupils. Each school must develop, maintain and regularly review a detailed RSE curriculum map within Appendix A.

This must clearly show:

- when and how statutory content is taught
- how content is adapted to reflect local safeguarding risks and pupil need
- how progression is planned across year groups

Headteachers are responsible for ensuring that this curriculum mapping is complete, up to date, and available to parents on request.

Schools will ensure that parents and carers:

- have access to curriculum overviews and content information
- are shown a representative sample of material and can access all materials on request
- are supported to understand the purpose and safeguarding rationale of the curriculum

Trust leaders will ensure that each school completes and maintains an up-to-date curriculum map within Appendix A, and that this is reviewed regularly as part of quality assurance and safeguarding oversight.

Curriculum Overview:

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 1	Autumn 1	• Friendship – making new friends and solidifying relationships with peers • E safety – how to stay safe online	See 3D PSHE planning
	Autumn 2	• Good manners – polite vs rude	
	Spring 2	• Feelings – how to name them, how to respond to others, how to explain opinions	
	Summer 1	• What is bullying? – unkindness, blaming others and considering different types of behaviour • Family – who makes up my family, special people to me,	
Year 2	Autumn 1	• Friendship – what is fair and unfair, solidifying relationships, sharing	See 3D PSHE planning
	Autumn 2	• Right and wrong – how to decide what is the right decision	
	Spring	• Cooperation – negotiation and debate skills, communication, considering how to play with others	
	Summer 1	• Parts of the body – correct anatomy and privacy • Behaviour – how our behaviour can show what we need, considering other people's perspectives, learning what it means to tease	

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 3	Autumn 1	Online privacy – e-protection	See 3D PSHE planning
	Autumn 2	Friendships – what are the features of a good friend, celebrating our friends, how to manage falling out with friends	
	Spring 2	Communication and listening skills – learning the different ways people communicate and how to show you are an active listener	
	Summer 2	Collaboration – how to work well with others, what is collaboration, how to build shared goals	
Year 4	Autumn 1	Internet safety – age limits, online usage and personal information	See 3D PSHE planning
	Autumn 2	Emotions – frustration, ways to respond to emotions, self-worth, persistence and resilience	
	Spring 2	Communication – how we respond to others, how to express an opinion	
	Summer 2	Connections – who we are connected to within the community, family trees, religious view and celebrating diversity	

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 5	Autumn 1	Online relationships – trolling, being respectful online and what makes a profile unsafe	See 3D PSHE planning Medway RSE resources PSHE Association resources
	Spring 2	Communication – confidentiality and secret keeping, how to be an effective listener, how we would respond in different scenarios	
	Spring / Summer	Online Safety (Understanding AI) - What is AI? - How does AI affect our rights? - What is an AI chat bot? - Puberty and body changes – physical and emotional changes SRE for girls – body changes - Puberty – What it is. - What are the signs? - Body changes. - Periods and hygiene.	

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 6	Autumn 1	- Internet safety – identifying fake news - Online spending unit – spending influences and wellbeing / support	See 3D PSHE planning Medway RSE resources (RSE lessons - puberty and how a baby is made lessons)
	Autumn 2	Similarities and differences - Race and ethnicity – recognising stereotyping and discrimination - Respect for one another - Gender stereotypes	
	Spring/ Summer	Emotions - Mental wellbeing, support and care Online Safety (AI fake images) - The impact of generative AI - The ethics of AI images Healthy Relationships - Understand the importance of touch - Know the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch. - Developing positive relationships. Diversity - Understand the benefits of living in a diverse community. RSE - Body changes – what to expect. - Hygiene - Girls watch the girls changes video and the boy changes video. - Boys watch the boy changes video and the girl changes video. - How babies are made	

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES

Appendix B

Guidance on Working with External Partners to deliver RSE

Each school is responsible for what is said to students. This includes making sure that any speakers, and resources used do not 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

Schools 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 students' developmental stage
 - Comply with this policy and The Teachers Standards, The Equality Act 2010, The Human Rights Act 1998, and The Education Act 1996
- Only work with external agencies where we have full confidence in the agency, its approach, and the resources it uses
- Make sure that any speakers and resources meet the intended outcome of the relevant part of the curriculum
- Review any case study materials and look for feedback from other people the agency has worked with
- Be clear on:
 - What they are going to say
 - Their position on the issues to be discussed
- Ask to see in advance any materials that the agency may use
- Know the named individuals who will be there, and follow our usual safeguarding procedures for these people
- Conduct a basic online search and address anything that may be of concern to us, or to parents and carers
- Check the agency's protocol for taking pictures or using any personal data they might get from a session

- Remind teachers that they can say “no” or, in extreme cases, stop a session
- Make sure that the teacher is in the room during any sessions with external speakers We will not, under any circumstances:
 - Work with external agencies that take or promote extreme political positions
 - Use materials produced by such agencies, even if the material itself is not extreme

References – Links to Guidance and Useful Information

National PSHE Association - www.pshe-association.org.uk

Education Act 2002. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/data.pdf>

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education – DfE February 2025.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

Education Act (2006). <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/40/contents>

Learning and Skills Act (2000). <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/21/contents>

Equality Act (2010). <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>

Children and Social work Act (2017).
<https://www.socialworkengland.org.uk/about/publications/children-and-social-work-act-2017/>

Keeping Children Safe in Education – statutory safeguarding guidance (2025). - [Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025](#)

PREVENT Duty Guidance 2023 - [PREVENT Duty Guidance 2023](#)

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 - [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#)

Meeting Digital and Technology Standards in Schools and Colleges 2023 - [Meeting Digital and Technology Standards in Schools 2023](#)

Teachers’ Standards. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-standards>