



# Prime8 Education

## RSHE Policy

**Aims:** The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our provision are to:

- ✓ Enable learners to learn about what makes healthy relationships, including with family, friends and on-line, how to recognise unhealthy behaviour in relationships and how to seek help if they feel unsafe
- ✓ Support learners to develop self-respect, confidence and empathy
- ✓ Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- ✓ Prepare learners for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- ✓ Teach learners the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.

Teaching will be age appropriate and will respect the diversity of families and faith in our community. RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

### 1. Policy development

This policy has been developed in partnership with staff, pupils and parents as required by the Department for Education. We are committed to on-going consultation with families and stakeholders throughout the evolution of our relationships and sex education programme.

The policy development process involves the following steps:

1. Review – a working group pulled together all relevant information including national guidance
2. Staff feedback – all provision staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Learner feedback – we investigated what exactly learners want from their RSE by meeting with them to discuss the changes to the RSE programme
4. Ratification – by the director before the policy is then shared with commissioners

### 2. Statutory requirements

From September 2020, all secondary pupils must be taught relationships and sex education. This applies to every provision whether it is maintained, academy, free school or independent.

### 3. Links to other policies and curriculum subjects.

- The science curriculum includes teaching about reproduction in humans including the male and female reproductive systems, menstrual cycle, gametes, fertilisation, gestation, birth and HIV/AIDS.
- PSD looks at family, values and morals, and the celebration of marriage in different traditions.
- Health education requires learners to learn about the main changes which take place in adolescence, and implications for emotional and physical health.

- The PSD curriculum covers e-safety. This includes how to use technology responsibly, respectfully and securely, how to keep personal information private, and where to go for help and support.

There continues to be no right of withdrawal from any part of the provision curriculum except for RE and sex education. Parents/carers will continue to have a right to request to withdraw their child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, should be granted up to three terms before their child turns 16. At this point, if the learner themselves wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at primary or secondary. The content of relationships education is supported by our:

- SEND policy
- Online Safety policy
- Acceptable Use policy
- British Values teaching
- CSE policy
- Equality and Diversity policy
- Child Protection - Safeguarding policy

#### **4. Delivery of RSE:**

RSE will be inclusive for all learners, sensitive to all family and faith backgrounds and learners' own identities. It will be respectful of all protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. Protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity.

The provision environment reflects, values and celebrates the diversity of our community. Across all key stages, learners will be supported with developing the following skills:



- Communication skills
- Forming positive relationships including self-respect as well as respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness and managing conflict and difficult emotions

Skills and knowledge will be taught in an age-appropriate way. Teaching methods are a combination of sharing information and facilitating discussions and exploring issues and values. Lessons will be delivered by teaching staff within the provision. The Department for Education has set out guidance on what learners should be taught by the end of secondary school, under a series of themes which are set out below. Some themes will recur throughout Key Stages 3 and 4, others will be delivered in the most appropriate year only. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from lessons on sexual intimacy, sexualised behaviour and sexual health, and the planning of these can be seen in the RSHE Long Term and Medium-Term Planning.

## 5. Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way, taking account of learners cultural and faith backgrounds
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE, as with any other subject
- Monitoring learners learning in order to ensure they make progress
- Responding to the needs of individual learners
- Responding appropriately to Learners whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the sex education components of RSE.

Learners are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity, as they would be expected to in any other lesson.

Date of Completion	1.9.25	Signed:  Debbie Crookes (Tutor)
Date of Ratification	1.9.2025	Signed:  Julie Townsend (Director)
Date for Review	August 2026	