

EPWORTH PRIMARY ACADEMY



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Introduction and Purpose of Policy

Epworth Primary Academy believes that relationship and sex education (RSE) makes an essential contribution to every student's health, wellbeing, and preparation for adult life in society. Effective RSE is essential if young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their lives. A comprehensive programme of RSE provides accurate information about the body, reproduction, and sex. It also gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful, and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline. It is an integral part of the PSHE programme within the Academy.

The aim of the sex and relationship education policy is:

To endorse the entitlement of all students in this Academy to sex and relationship education.

- to confirm the coverage and scope of sex and relationship education in this Academy.
- to ensure that appropriate guidance is available for the staff that will deliver the programme of RSE
- to specify the right of parents to withdraw their children part of RSE.

What is Sex and Relationship Education?

It is part of lifelong learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships. It contributes to the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development of students and prepares them for the experiences, rights, and responsibilities of adult life whilst feeling and secure within their skin.

EPA the sex and relationship education programme will cover three main elements:

Attitudes and Values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations.
- learning the value of family life and stable loving relationships for the nurture of children.
- learning the value of respect, love, and care.
- exploring, considering, and understanding moral dilemmas.
- developing critical thinking as part of decision making.

Personal and Social Skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively.
- developing self-respect and empathy for others.
- learning to make choices based on understanding of differences and with an absence of prejudice.
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made.
- managing conflict.
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

Knowledge and Understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages.

- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, emotions, relationships, sexual health and contraception at appropriate stages.
- developing an awareness of sex and the law.
- developing an understanding of the diversity of relationships and sexuality.
- an understanding of the difference between consenting and exploitative relationships.
- understanding internet safety issues such as sexting and sharing of images.

All pupils at EPA are entitled to sex and relationship education this will provide a coherent, well-balanced programme of sex and relationships education that:

- reflects the age and maturity of the students.
- meets the needs of both boys and girls.

Content and organisation

RSE is not an isolated subject. It permeates the whole Academy curriculum, the ethos of the Academy, and the pastoral system.

Many subjects, but particularly Science, Religious Education and PSHE explore some elements of RSE.

At EPA pupils will receive sex and relationship education through the PSHE curriculum, in particular exploring:

- Physical and emotional changes during puberty
- Management of growth and change during puberty
- Relationships: friends and families, marriage, and civil partnerships
- Health services
- Sex, gender, sexuality, and sexual orientation
- E-safety

Students will receive sex and relationship education through a range of elements in the academy curriculum for example:

Big Talk, PSHE and SMSC, assemblies, English as well as daily life in the academy.

We have regular visits from PSCO to share online safety

All students have access to additional one to one support from external agencies where required through referral

Confidentiality

- Teachers cannot offer or guarantee absolute confidentiality in some matters and students will be made aware of this.
- EPA is aware that effective sex and relationships education can lead to the disclosure of a Child Protection issue and this will be acted on in accordance with the Academy's Child Protection Policy.
- Students will be informed of the sources of confidential help available which currently include the Key member of staff, including the School nurse (on request).
- As part of an effective PSHE programme, ground rules will be explained by the teacher before the start of any sensitive discussions.

Parents' Right of Withdrawal

- Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from part of the RSE programme where

Sex Education is taught. (Any agreement made to withdraw pupils from sex education within RSE programme will not withdraw them from sex education taught in science lessons.)

- However, there is no right for a child to be withdrawn from any of the relationship content or health content of the RSE as this is a compulsory component. Any request made to withdraw from relationship or health content would breach guidance issued under Sections 34 and 35 of the Children & Social Work Act of 2017 and cannot be accepted

Monitoring and evaluation

- The PSHE Co-ordinator will liaise annually with the other curriculum areas to ensure that the syllabus is being covered and that the biological and emotional elements are properly co-ordinated.
- The Senior Leadership Team will monitor the implementation of this policy

Document Control

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