



**Abacus Primary School**

# **RSE Policy**

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**Written by: Emily Borley and Claire Smith**

**On: Summer 2020**

**Reviewed:**

**Future Review date: Summer 2022**

## **Intent:**

At Abacus Primary School we want children in RSE to be taught how to embrace the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life, make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficiency. Pupils will be able to put this knowledge into practice as they develop the capacity to make sound decisions when facing risks, challenges and complex contexts. Everyone faces difficult situations in their lives. The teaching of RSE at Abacus will support young people to develop resilience, to know how and when to ask for help, and to know where to access support.

## The Purpose of this policy

*RSE is taught alongside and through PSHE at Abacus - please read this policy in conjunction with the PSHE policy.*

This policy covers our school's approach to the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education. It was produced by the subject leaders through consultation with a Healthy Schools Engagement Worker.

We define 'relationships and sex education' as the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults.

We believe relationships and sex education is important for our pupils and our school because it helps the children to learn accurate and age appropriate skills and language regarding attitude and knowledge about the body, reproductive system, sex and sexual health.

Our school's overarching aims for our pupils are to foster a positive notion of lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development including how to look after their physical and mental health.

## Roles and responsibilities

**Class teachers:** Teaching staff will be responsible for the teaching of RSE at Abacus. They will receive RSE training from the PSHE Leaders and from the Healthy School Engagement Worker, and be provided with a scheme of work to follow.

**Governing Body and Subject leader:** The RSE programme will be led by Emily Borley and Claire Smith in conjunction with PSHE. Responsibility for the RSE policy ultimately lies with the governing body. These responsibilities include ensuring:

- all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes;
- the subjects are well led, effectively managed and well planned;
- the quality of provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation;
- teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND;
- clear information is provided for parents on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn;
- the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures that
- the school can fulfil its legal obligations.

## Legislation

Revised Department for Education statutory guidance states that from September 2020, **all schools** must deliver relationships education (in primary schools) and relationships and sex education (in secondary schools).

*'The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory for all pupils receiving secondary education. They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools. Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) continues to be compulsory in independent schools.'*

Documents that inform the school's RSE policy include:

- Education Act (1996)
- Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010)
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21st century (2014)
- Keeping children safe in education - Statutory safeguarding guidance (2016)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

## How RSE is taught at Abacus

Our RSE programme is an integral part of our whole school PSHE education provision.

*Please see PSHE Policy for information of the planning, teaching and assessing of RSE.*

## Safeguarding

Teachers are aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. If a pupil makes a disclosure staff are expected to follow the safeguarding protocol as outlined in the safeguarding policy.

## Inclusion

We promote the needs and interests of all pupils, irrespective of gender, culture, ability or personal circumstance by adhering to the school inclusion policy at all times and following a broad and balanced curriculum. This curriculum is planned to ensure all children feel valued and respected. Teaching will take into account the age, ability, readiness, and cultural backgrounds of children to ensure that all can fully access PSHE education provision. We promote diversity and inclusion will consider all pupils' needs by careful planning and responding to and catering to the needs of each individual class

and child. We expect our pupils to consider others' needs by following the established ground rules.

We will use RSE alongside PSHE education as a way to address diversity issues and to ensure equality for all. We recognise the right for all pupils to have access to PSHE education learning which meets their needs. We will ensure that pupils with SEND receive access to RSE through liaison with the SENCO and referring to the SEN Policy and individual One Plans and EHCPs. We will not exclude access to RSE for any pupil.

### **Home school partnership opportunities**

The role of parents in the development of their children's understanding about relationships is vital. Parents are the first teachers of their children. They have the most significant influence in enabling their children to grow and mature and to form healthy relationships. We will ensure that parents know what will be taught and when via the school website.

At Abacus, we are committed to working with parents and carers. We will offer support by ensuring parent's are aware of the overarching questions that the children will be focusing on each term. We will communicate with parents and carers through the website. We will encourage discussion of topics at home by setting homework and sharing long term planning on the school website. We will communicate to parents about their right to withdraw their children. If a parent wishes to withdraw their child we will invite the parent for a meeting and discuss options for withdrawal.

The policy will be available to parents through the school website.

### **Monitoring and Reporting**

This policy will be monitored by the subject leaders, SMT and the Governing Body. This monitoring may be via lesson observations, planning and work analysis. There may also be staff and pupil questionnaire. Findings from any monitoring will be reported via Subject Release Forms and/or in staff meetings.

### **Policy Review:**

This policy will be reviewed in 2022 by the subject leader. This will ensure the broad and balanced coverage of the RSE curriculum at Abacus.

### **Other Policies to be read in conjunction:**

RSE

Safeguarding

Child Protection

Inclusion

Assessment

Behaviour