



Christ Church CE VC Primary School

RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) Policy

(including statutory requirements from September 2020, and our position on Sex Education)

Date of policy	13 th May, 2022
Date ratified by Governors	
Date of Parent Consultation	
Review Date	
Subject Leader	Leigh Matthews

RSHE

At Christ Church CE VC Primary School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education, including RSHE, as a whole-school approach to underpin children’s development as people.

The Jigsaw Programme offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children’s learning in this vital curriculum area. The overview of the RSHE programme can be seen on the school website.

Statutory Relationships and Health Education

“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. They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools.”

DfE Guidance p.8

“Today’s children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.”

“This is why we have made Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools in England...as well as making Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools.”

“In primary schools, we want the subjects to put in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online. This will sit alongside the essential understanding of how to be healthy.”

“ These subjects represent a huge opportunity to help our children and young people develop. The knowledge and attributes gained will support their own, and others’ wellbeing and attainment and help young people to become successful and happy adults who make a meaningful contribution to society.”

Secretary of State Foreword DfE Guidance 2019 p.4-5

“Schools are free to determine how to deliver the content set out in the DfE guidance 2019 in the context of a broad and balanced curriculum. Effective teaching in these subjects will ensure that core knowledge is broken down into units of manageable size and communicated clearly to pupils, in a carefully sequenced way, within a planned programme of lessons.”

DfE Guidance p.8

At Christ Church CE VC Primary School, we value PSHE as one way to support children’s development as human beings, to enable them to understand and respect who they are, to empower them with a voice and to equip them for life and learning. We include the statutory Relationships and Health Education within our whole-school PSHE Programme.

To ensure progression and a spiral curriculum, we use Jigsaw as our chosen teaching and learning programme and tailor it to our children’s needs. The mapping document: Jigsaw 3-11 and statutory Relationships and Health Education, shows exactly how Jigsaw and therefore our school, meets the statutory Relationships and Health Education requirements. A copy of this document can be found on our website.

Our RSHE policy is informed by existing DfE guidance:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (statutory guidance)
- Respectful School Communities: Self Review and Signposting Tool (a tool to support a whole school approach that promotes respect and discipline)
- Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (advice for schools, including advice for appropriate behaviour between pupils)
- Equality Act 2010 and schools
- SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years (statutory guidance)
- Alternative Provision (statutory guidance)
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools (advice for schools)
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools (advice for schools)
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance (provides advice on avoiding discrimination in a variety of educational contexts)
- Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (guidance for maintained schools on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC)
- SMSC requirements for independent schools (guidance for independent schools on how they should support pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development).

It is also aligned with the Church of England’s “A CHARTER FOR FAITH SENSITIVE AND INCLUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION, RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSHE) AND HEALTH EDUCATION (RSHE)” and draws on the advice given in the Church of England document ‘Valuing All God’s Children: Guidance for Church of England schools on challenging homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying’ (Church of England Education Office, second edition updated summer 2019).

The Jigsaw Programme is aligned to the PSHE Association Programmes of Study for PSHE and RSHE.

What do we teach, when, and who teaches it?

Whole-school approach

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase including statutory Relationships and Health Education. The majority of RSHE is taught in Term 6 under the Jigsaw theme: “Changing Me”. However, aspects of healthy relationships are alluded to throughout the Jigsaw PSHE curriculum, details of which can be seen in the table at the end of this document.

At Christ Church CE VC Primary School, class teachers deliver these lessons to their own classes, as they are best placed to ensure that the content is appropriate for those particular children and are able to adjust content and delivery on the grounds of the individuals in their class; for example, taking into consideration SEND requirements, age appropriateness and personal sensitivities. However, from time to time, the PSHE or RSHE Subject Leaders will team teach or lead a lesson, depending on the experience and confidence of the class teacher of the subject matter they need to facilitate.

What does the DfE statutory guidance on Relationships Education expect children to know by the time they leave primary school?

Relationships Education in primary schools will cover 'Families and people who care for me', 'Caring friendships', 'Respectful relationships', 'Online relationships', and 'Being safe'.

The expected outcomes for each of these elements can be found further on in this policy. The way the Jigsaw Programme covers these is explained in the mapping document: Jigsaw 3-11 and Statutory Relationships and Health Education.

Parents should also be aware that the Church of England states in "Valuing All God's Children", 2019, that Relationships and Sex education should: *"Make it clear that relationships and sex education is designed to prepare all pupils for the future, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. RSHE must promote gender equality and LGBT equality and it must challenge discrimination. RSHE must take the needs and experiences of LGBT people into account and it should seek to develop understanding that there are a variety of relationships and family patterns in the modern world."* (Page 34)

Health Education

What does the DfE statutory guidance on Health Education expect children to know by the time they leave primary school?

Health Education in primary schools will cover 'Mental wellbeing', 'Internet safety and harms', 'Physical health and fitness', 'Healthy eating', 'Drugs, alcohol and tobacco', 'Health and prevention', 'Basic First Aid', 'Changing adolescent body'.

Teaching children about puberty is now a statutory requirement which sits within the Health Education part of the DfE guidance within the 'Changing adolescent body' strand, and in Jigsaw this is taught as part of the Changing Me Puzzle (unit). The other statutory elements of Health Education are covered under PSHE through other Jigsaw Puzzles (units) through the year.

Sex Education

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p.23) recommends that all primary schools 'have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils.'

However, 'Sex Education is not compulsory in primary schools'. (p. 23)

Schools are to determine the content of sex education at primary school. Sex education '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'.

Parents' right to request their child be excused from Sex Education

"Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory Relationships and Sex Education" DfE Guidance p.17

The National Curriculum for science requires children to know how mammals reproduce. This falls within our science curriculum from which children cannot be withdrawn as it is statutory. However, we conclude that sex education refers to human reproduction, and therefore inform parents of their right to request their child be withdrawn from the RSHE lesson that explicitly teaches this i.e. the Jigsaw Changing Me Puzzle (unit) - Year 6, Lesson 3 (Conception, birth). We underpin this learning in terms of loving and consensual relationships.

The school will inform parents of this right via curriculum newsletters.

Please note: at Christ Church, we have moved the Jigsaw lessons suggested for Year 4 regarding conception to Year 6, as we regard this to be a more age appropriate time for this learning. Similarly, the Year 4 menstruation lesson is moved to Year 5. However, an optional extra lesson will be offered to Year 4 on menstruation for those who feel ready for it.

Monitoring and Review

The Curriculum Committee of the governing body monitors this policy on an annual basis. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The Curriculum Committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the RSHE programme, and makes a record of all such comments. Governors scrutinise and ratify teaching materials to check they are in accordance with the school's ethos.

Equality

This policy will inform the school's Equalities Plan.

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p. 15) states, "Schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect. Schools must ensure they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010 under which sexual orientation and gender reassignment are amongst the protected characteristics..."

At the point at which schools consider it appropriate to teach their pupils about LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), they should ensure this content is fully integrated into their programmes of study for this area of the curriculum rather than delivered as a stand-alone unit or lesson. Schools are free to determine how they do this, and we expect all pupils to have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum".

This can also have an impact on any anti-bullying policies in regard to these characteristics being the reason for the issue. The Church of England document "Valuing all God's Children", 2019, states:

"Schools should ensure that they have clear anti-bullying policies on preventing and tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic behaviour and language and that these policies are known and understood by all members of the school community. School leaders should present a clear message that HBT bullying will not be tolerated and that there can be no justification for this negative behaviour based on the Christian faith or the Bible. Schools should ensure that pupils understand how to report incidents. Pupils should be confident that if they report bullying it will be taken seriously."

It also asserts:

"Central to Christian theology is the truth that every single one of us is made in the image of God. Every one of us is loved unconditionally by God. We must avoid, at all costs, diminishing the dignity of any individual to a stereotype or a problem. Church of England schools offer a community where everyone is a person known and loved by God, supported to know their intrinsic value" (page 1)

"Opportunities to discuss issues to do with self-esteem, identity and bullying, including HBT (homophobic, biphobic and transphobic) bullying, should be included in physical, social, health and economic education or citizenship programmes. The curriculum should offer opportunities for pupils to learn to value themselves and their bodies. Relationships and sex education should take LGBT people into account." (Page 6)

At Christ Church CE VC Primary School, we promote respect for all and value every individual child.

We also respect the right of our children, their families and our staff, to hold beliefs, religious or otherwise, and understand that sometimes these may be in tension with our approach to some aspects of Relationships, Sex and Health Education.

For further explanation as to how we approach LGBT relationships in the PSHE (RSHE) Programme please see: 'Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ relationships?' on our website.

Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually.

	Signed Headteacher	Signed Chair of Governors
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Date of review:		
Date of next review:		

The Jigsaw PSHE/RSHE documents needed to explain this policy can be found on the school's website:

- Jigsaw 3-11 and statutory Relationships and Health Education (mapping document)
- Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ relationships?
- How does Jigsaw PSHE support the Church of England Principles and Charter in relation to RSHE?

Relationships Education in Primary schools – DfE Guidance 2019

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults. The references R3/H5 etc can be cross-referenced on the Jigsaw mapping documents and Puzzle Maps to show which lessons throughout Jigsaw contribute to which statutory outcomes. All statutory outcomes are covered in the Jigsaw 3-11 Programme.

The guidance states that, by the end of primary school:

	Pupils should know...	How Jigsaw provides the solution
Families and people who care for me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R1 that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability. • R2 the characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives. • R3 that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care. • R4 that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up. • R5 that marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong (Marriage in England and Wales is available to both opposite sex and same sex couples. The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 extended marriage to same sex couples in England and Wales. The ceremony through which a couple get married may be civil or religious). • R6 how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference • Being Me in My World
Caring friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R7 how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends • R8 the characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R9 that healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others and do not make others feel lonely or excluded • R10 that most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right • R11 how to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help and advice from others, if needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating Difference • Being Me in My World
Respectful relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R12 the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs • R13 practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships • R15 the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness • R18 what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive • R19 the importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference • Being Me in My World
Online relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R20 that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not. • R21 that the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous. • R22 the rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them. • R23 how to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met. • R24 how information and data is shared and used online. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference
Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R25 what sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context). • R26 about the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe. • R27 that each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R28 how to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know. • R29 how to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult. • R30 how to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard, • R31 how to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so. • R32 where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources. 	
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Physical health and mental well-being education in Primary schools – DfE Guidance

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing. Teachers should be clear that mental well-being is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.

By the end of primary school:

	Pupils should know	How Jigsaw provides the solution
Mental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H1 that mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health. • H2 that there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations. • H3 how to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings. • H4 how to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate. • H6 simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family and the benefits of hobbies and interests. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference
Changing adolescent body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H34 key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing Me

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H35 about menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healthy Me
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