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Relationship and Relationship and Sex Education and PSHE Policy

This policy applies all pupils in the school, including in the EYFS

Created: July 2020 / Reviewed: 31st August 2025

Next Review: August 2026 by

Headteacher: Cordelia Cripps

Checked by: Laurie Bench

Date: 31/08/25

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Scope of this policy

1 Policy Context and Rationale

1.1 This policy covers all pupils and year groups within the school, including the EYFS and sets out the School's approach to Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) and Relationships Education {Prep} delivery.

The policy has been developed with reference to guidance Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education; Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers a copy of which can be accessed here

- 1.2 It was produced through consultation with staff, pupils and parents through (but not limited to) the following channels:
- 1.2.1 PSHE Leader review and feedback from staff meetings.

- 1.3 PSHE education provides a significant contribution to the schools' responsibility to:
- 1.3.1 promote children and young people's wellbeing
- 1.3.2 achieve the whole curriculum aims
- 1.3.3 promote community cohesion
- 1.3.5 provide relationships and sex education
- 1.4 The policy is informed and underpinned by the School's values of Inspire, Nurture, Value (Enquiring Minds, Extraordinary Stories) The PSHE and RSHE programme aims to develop:
- 1.4.1 Successful learners who enjoy learning, making progress and achieving
- 1.4.2 Confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- 1.4.3 Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society
- 1.5 To ensure that pupils develop an understanding of fundamental British Values and uphold these throughout the curriculum, pupils are also taught explicitly about British Values which are defined as:
- 1.5.1 Democracy & the rule of law
- 1.5.2 individual liberty
- 1.5.3 mutual respect
- 1.5.4 and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

These values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional Education (PSHE) as well as embedded in the School's broad and balanced curriculum.

1.6 Parents will be informed about the policy via presentations and email and the policy will be made available through the school website and Reach More Parents.

2 Legislation (Statutory Regulations and Guidelines)

- 2.1 Under the Education Act 2002, all schools must provide a balanced broadly-based curriculum which:
- 2.1.1 Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society
- 2.1.2 Prepares pupils at the school for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life
- 2.2 The 2006 Education and Inspections Act placed a duty on Governing Bodies to:
- 2.2.1 Promote the wellbeing of pupils at the school
- 2.3 Revised Department for Education statutory guidance will state that from September 2020 all schools must
- 2.3.1 Relationships Education (Primary) and Relationships and Sex Education (Secondary).

2.3.2 LGBTQ+ (protected characteristics) inclusion is required as part of the statutory Relationships Education, Relationship and Sex Education and Health Education curriculum and there is a range of support available to help schools counter homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying and abuse. (KCSIE para 204). Please refer to the Equal Opportunities Policy.

3 Roles and Responsibilities

- 3.1 From September 2020 PSHE and RSE delivery across all of the School sites will be monitored by the Head of PSHE (Pam Holmes) and Deputy Head (Laurie Bench). Each school has its own PSHE lead to ensure contextual and appropriate delivery at each key stage. They will be responsible for liaising with other curriculum leads so that curriculum design in different areas complements the RSE program, rather than repeating what is already taught. Further detail is outlined in Paragraph 8.
- 3.2 Governance will oversee that the discharge of this policy ensures:
- 3.2.1 all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes;
- 3.2.2 the subjects are well led, effectively managed and well planned;
- 3.2.3 the quality of provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation;
- 3.2.4 teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND;
- 3.2.5 clear information is provided for parents/carers on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn; and,
- 3.2.6 the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures that the school can fulfil its legal obligations.

4 Curriculum Design

4.1 The curriculum is designed around active engagement in learning, rather than passively receiving information. Pupils will be given opportunities to consider and clarify their values and beliefs and to rehearse and develop enquiry and interpersonal skills.

PSHE Lead - Mrs P Holmes Deputy Head - Mrs Bench SENCO - Miss Capper

Academic Lead - Mrs Cripps and Mrs Bench

Nursery Manager - Mrs Head

Lower School Lead - Mrs Mathema

Upper School Lead - Mr Caunt

EYFS Lead - Mrs Tuck

Form Tutors - Day to day pastoral care; liaise with parents and liaison with all other SHS staff pertinent to each child

The learning and promotion of PSHE and RSHE is embedded across the whole school. Children are in classes with a dedicated form tutor who is responsible for their pastoral care and will address any issues as they arise such as supporting pupils to take responsibility for their actions and the consequences of their actions and developing feelings of self respect and self-esteem. The personal beliefs and attitudes of teachers are not to influence the teaching of sex and relationship education. All staff working at Sherborne House School must be aware that they help support the learning and teaching of PSHE & Relationships Education whether directly or indirectly - this includes the Learning Support Assistants, Teachers and support staff. Staff must be good role-models to the pupils. Learning and the development of self-esteem

and relationships do not just take place through the taught curriculum, but through all aspects of school life including playtimes.

- Curriculum time delivered by form tutors and other staff Dedicated timetabled PSHE and RSHE lessons each week.
- Use of Coram Life Education SCARF scheme as a source of PSHE and RSHE content and scope Scheme of work:

https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/scarf/

The online resource of 'SCARF' provide a whole-school approach and are mapped to the PSHE Association programme of study. The programme follows a spiral curriculum of half-termly topics (Me and My Relationships, Valuing Difference, Keeping Myself Safe, Rights and Responsibilities, Being My Best, Growing and Changing) which are built upon each year as the child progresses through the school.

PSHE is also taught through the school's half-termly themes e.g 'What If..?' Lessons will be adapted accordingly to the needs of the children at the time and also to reflect on real-life world events.

- PSHE is taught through other subjects/curriculum areas e.g PE, Computing, STEM, philosophy (yr6), Humanities
- PSHE delivered through whole school and extended timetable activities e.g. assemblies, after-school clubs, matches
- PSHE enabled through specific projects e.g The Big Anti-Bullying Assembly, Kindness Day, Harvest Festival (Night Shelter), Internet Safety (Safer Internet Day), Children's Mental Health Week,
- through involvement in the life of the school and wider community e.g FOSH (Friends of Sherborne House), Charities e.g Night Shelter, Childline NSPCC (Big Buddy's Workout) and nature walks.
- PSHE through pastoral care and guidance

Best Practice in PSHE Education:

Any new topic in PSHE will be introduced taking into account pupils' prior knowledge and will complement, not replicate learning in other subjects, based on a spiral curriculum.

Research shows that attempts to scare or shock young people into making healthy choices rarely works and often backfire.

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Pupils will be reassured that the majority of young people make positive healthy lifestyle choices Pupils are helped to make connections between PSHE education and their 'real life' experiences, including online contexts.

Curriculum design around online presence and social media will link to our e-safety and safeguarding policy.

5 Safe and Effective Practice

5.1 PSHE and RSE often draw on pupils' real-life experiences. A safe and supportive learning environment will be created by establishing ground rules in each context for the delivery of subject material. Staff delivering PSHE

and RSE will ensure the pupils, who indicate they may be at risk, get appropriate support by liaising with the appropriate pastoral team and adhering to the School's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

5.2 Within the curriculum design there are opportunities to teach safeguarding within the RSE and Health curriculum in accordance with KCSIE 2025 (para 130), which states: *Preventative education is most effective in the context of a whole-school or college approach that prepares pupils and students for life in modern Britain and creates a culture of zero tolerance for sexism, misogyny/misandry, homophobia, biphobic and sexual violence/harassment... These will be underpinned by the school/college's behaviour policy, the Equal Opportunities policy and pastoral support system, as well as by a planned programme of evidence-based RSHE delivered in regularly timetabled lessons and reinforced throughout the whole curriculum. Such a programme should be fully inclusive and developed to be age and stage of development appropriate (especially when considering the needs of children with SEND and other vulnerabilities). NB: If any safeguarding issues are raised during RSHE lessons, the school will refer to its Safeguarding policy*

6 Equality of Opportunity

- 6.1 Classroom practice and pedagogy will take into account pupils' development, age, ability, readiness and cultural background, protected characteristics and pupils with SEND and will be adjusted accordingly to enable all students to access the learning. We will use PSHE and RSE education as a way to address diversity issues and to ensure equality for all by addressing contextual issues identified through our pastoral management system and wellbeing surveys. PSHE and RSE delivery is designed to comply with the Equality Act 2010. Provisions within the Equality Act allow the School to take positive action, where it can be shown that it is proportionate, to deal with particular disadvantages affecting one group because of protected characteristics.
- 6.2 Relationships Education {Prep} takes account of the faith of individual pupils as well as the nature of the faith of the school whilst helping pupils from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships and to thrive in modern Britain. Sherborne House School is committed to promoting Equality and Diversity within our school and will celebrate the differences between us as individuals. When planning for teaching the religious background of pupils will be observed so that topics are appropriately handled.
- 6.3 Parents have the right to withdraw their children from those parts of RSE not within the national curriculum. Further details of this can be found in Paragraph 10.

7 Definition of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

- 7.1 Relationships and sex education (RSE) is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, diverse families, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. It should equip children and young people with the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships, to enjoy their sexuality and to take responsibility for their sexual health and well-being.
- 7.2 RSE is an entitlement for all children and young people and must:
- 7.2.1 Be accurate and factual, covering a comprehensive range of information about sex, relationships, the law and sexual health, in order to make informed choices. In schools this should be part of compulsory curriculum provision;
- 7.2.2 Be inclusive in terms of gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, culture, age, religion or belief, or any protected characteristics or other life-experience particularly HIV status and pregnancy;
- 7.2.3 Include the development of skills to support healthy and safe relationships and ensure good communication about these issues:

- 7.2.4 Promote a critical awareness of the different attitudes and views on sex and relationships within society such as peer norms and those portrayed in the media;
- 7.2.5 Seeks to break down stereotypes, tackle negative behaviours and build a culture of positive tolerance and understanding consistently role modelled by all staff at the school.
- 7.2.6 Provide opportunities for reflection in order to nurture personal values based on mutual respect and care;
- 7.2.7 Be part of lifelong learning, starting early in childhood and continuing throughout life. It should reflect the age and level of the learner;
- 7.2.8 Ensure children and young people are clearly informed of their rights such as how they can access confidential advice and health services within the boundaries of safeguarding;
- 7.2.9 Be relevant and meet the needs of children and young people, and actively involve them as participants, advocates and evaluators in developing good quality provision;
- 7.2.10 Be delivered by competent and confident educators;
- 7.2.11 Be provided within a learning environment which is safe for the children, young people and adults involved and based on the principle that prejudice, discrimination and bullying are harmful and unacceptable.

8 Responsibilities and Delivery Overview

Prep

PSHE Lead

Mrs Holmes

- Monitor the standards of teaching and the children's work, ensuring continuity from year group to year group.
- Advise on in-service training to staff where appropriate and feedback on any developments in the subject.
- Help and support staff where necessary.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Bench)
- Lead teacher on Pupil Voice for example School Council (Miss Capper)

The focus during Relationship Education focuses on:

- the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular emphasis on friendships, family and relationships with other children and adults;
- differences in families and their structure and respect for the individual circumstances of families

It addresses the relationships between:

- physical health and mental well being
- the balance of online and other activities
- emotion and the ability to express emotions

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Unlike Relationships Education, Sex Education is not compulsory for pupils receiving primary education, although some primary schools may choose to teach it. Under the 1993 Education Act, parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the school's Sex Education programme except those in the statutory National Curriculum (biological aspects of human growth and reproduction). From September 2020 parents of primary-age children have the right to withdraw their children from Sex Education that is outside the Science Curriculum, but not to withdraw from Relationships Education, Health Education or Science. Parents choosing to withdraw their children from any sex education outside Relationships Education, Health Education or Science should outline their requests for withdrawal in writing and addressed to the Headteacher.

Further detail of what Primary pupils need to achieve by the end of Y6

Families and people who care for me

Pupils should know:

- that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability
- 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
- 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
- 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
- that marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong
- how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed

Caring friendships

Pupils should know:

- how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends
- the characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties
- that healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded
- 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 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 or advice from others, if needed

Respectful relationships

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Pupils should know:

- 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
- practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships
- the conventions of courtesy and manners
- the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness
- that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help
- what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive the importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults

Online relationships

Pupils should know:

- that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
- 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
- the rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them
- how to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
- how information and data is shared and used online

Being safe

Pupils should know:

- what sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)
- 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
- that each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact
- how to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know
- how to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult how to
 ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard, how
 to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so where to
 get advice, for example family, school or other source

9 Managing difficult questions:

Pupils' questions are valued. If necessary, teachers need to feel able to ask a pupil to wait for an answer to give

them time to consult with the school's leadership team if they feel this is appropriate, or if the questions arises

potential safeguarding concerns. In each classroom there is an anonymous question box 'As It Basket' where pupils who are not comfortable raising questions in an open setting may be responded to at a later date.

10 Parents' right to withdraw their child

10.1 Parents/carers will not be able to withdraw their child from relationships education in prep school or secondary school.

11 Intended Outcomes

- 11.1 As a result of our PSHE and RSE programme, pupils will:
- 11.1.1 Develop the knowledge, skills and personal attributes they need to manage their lives now and in the future
- 11.1.2 Learn to make responsible decisions e.g. about alcohol, drugs, relationships and future careers
- 11.1.3 Learn to recognise and manage risk and take increasing responsibility for themselves and their actions both online and in their daily lives
- 11.1.4 Understand the importance of wellbeing and how to tackle issues that can affect their ability to learn and their mental health
- 11.1.5 Understand the characteristics of and the importance of building healthy and positive relationships both online and in their daily lives
- 11.1.6 Develop skills such as teamwork, communication and resilience
- 11.1.7 Be encouraged to make positive contributions to their families, schools and communities
- 11.1.8 Explore differences and learn to value diversity in all its forms
- 11.1.9 Reflect on their own individual values and attitudes
- 11.1.10 Identify and articulate feelings and emotions and manage difficult situations positively
- 11.1.11 Learn about the world of work Utilise parental engagement skills/careers information from parents this may take the form of virtual meets.
- 11.1.12 Learn to manage their money and finances effectively under SCARF money and finance lessons taught under spiral curriculum; also cross-curricular links in maths lessons and extra-curricular events e.g class projects and sales.

12 Monitoring and Assessing

- 12.1 Monitoring:
- 12.1.1 The effectiveness of the PSHE and Relationship Education (Prep upto Y6) provision will be evaluated through:annual governance, Learning Review, Book Looks, Learning Walks, Lesson observations and appraisal.
- 12.2 Areas for assessment:

- 12.2.1 Pupils' knowledge and understanding through classroom discussion and formative assessment activities. Teachers should collect evidence of learning to make a judgement about pupils' progress. This may include: presentations, written evidence, group work, observations.
- 12.2.2 Application of knowledge and skills in wider school participation, resolving conflict, making decisions and forming positive relationships. Pupil voice will be influential in adapting and amending the material for PSHE and RSE to ensure it is up to date and relevant.

13 Confidentiality

13.1 Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidentially and will be informed that, if certain disclosures are made, the information may be disclosed to the Safeguarding team.

14 Counselling Services

14.1 Pupils are made aware of counselling and information services both in and out of school and offered appropriate support.

15 OutsideSpeakers

15.1 Please refer to Appendix 6 of the Child Protection and Safeguarding policy for details of procedures for Visiting Speakers.

16 EYFS

16.1 In the Early Years Foundation Stage, the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 and the accompanying statutory guidance do not apply; however Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED) is one of the prime areas within the EYFS curriculum and age-appropriate provision is made accordingly.