



EBORA ACADEMY TRUST

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Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Approved by:

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1. Introduction

As an academy group we have four clear drivers. Excellence, Belonging, Opportunity, Respect.

Excellence – We work to inspire and instil in others, the desire to be the best we can.

Belonging – To work together as a community, having a unique and valued part to play within our academy alliance.

Opportunity – To give, and be given, the opportunities to grow, flourish, and celebrate success.

Respect – To value, respect and care for others and ourselves.

2. Policy Intent

At Haxby Road Primary we have a dedicated time to teach RSE in a weekly timetabled session, approximately 45 minutes per week. We follow our PSHE curriculum and ensure coverage by using our long term plan. PHSE elements are also woven into our key stage and whole school assemblies. We take great care in our approach towards pupil wellbeing in school and place importance on children sharing their feelings and concerns through emotional check ins. All classes have dedicated PHSE sessions in our school HUB (Helping Us Belong).

We aim to promote personal well being and development through a comprehensive taught programme of PSHE that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live a healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled life both now and in the future. We believe a high quality RSE curriculum helps create a safe school community and enhances our whole school key values in which children can **grow, learn** and **aspire** together.

3. What Is Relationship and Sex Education?

Sex and Relationship Education is lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care for family life. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

4. Statutory Expectations

Relationships and Health Education is compulsory in Primary Schools. We must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

For Primary Schools – Sex education is not mandatory although they must teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum. The National Curriculum for Science includes content about human body parts, growth, puberty and reproduction. Parents do not have the right to withdraw from this aspect of the curriculum. Primary Schools can decide to teach some aspect of Sex Education if they should deem it to be important in their context.

In teaching RSE, we must have regard to the statutory guidance from the DfE www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

The new curriculum will be compulsory from September 2020. Schools should start teaching from that date if they meet the statutory requirements. If they are not ready, or are unable to meet the requirements, they should begin teaching by at least the start of the summer term 2021.

Schools are required to comply with relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010. Further guidance is available for schools in The Equality Act 2010 and schools advice.

5. Policy Consultation

We are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers on the delivery of the RSE curriculum, we want our parents and carers to feel included and involved in how we are working with their children when educating them on sensitive and thought provoking topics featured within this curriculum. We will always

share information with parents in an informative and consultative way, that allows for a dialogue between home and school in order to strengthen the practice and provision we can deliver to our children (See Appendix 3 a guide for parents)

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation process involved the following steps:

1. *Staff consultation – all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations*
2. *Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy. The publication of supporting resources and materials for the 'puberty' and 'growing up lessons' are made available to parents prior to the delivery of these. We work to incorporate parental feedback into the development and delivery of these lessons.*
3. *Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE lessons and the areas of sensitivity, risk and development that is relevant to them and the context in which we teach.*

6. Aims and Objectives for Relationship and Sex Education

The aim of RSE is to provide children with age appropriate information, explore attitudes and values and develop skills in order to empower them to make positive decisions about their health related behaviour. This should take place with consideration of the qualities of relationships within families.

6.1 The objectives of Sex and Relationship Education are:

- a) To provide the knowledge and information to which all pupils are entitled.
To clarify/reinforce existing knowledge.
- b) To raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others.
- c) To help pupils understand their sexual feelings and behaviour, so they can lead fulfilling and enjoyable lives.
- d) To help pupils' develop skills (language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) and make the most of their abilities.
- e) To provide the confidence to be participating members of society and to value themselves and others.
To help gain access to information and support.
- f) To develop skills for a healthier safer lifestyle.
- g) To develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media.
- h) To respect and care for their bodies.
- i) To be prepared for puberty and adulthood.

6.2 RSE focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds including:

- a) Families
- b) Respectful relationships, including friendships
- c) Online and media
- d) Being safe
- e) Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst other structures) along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

7. Sex Education

At Haxby Road Prima

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Appendix 3: A Guide for parents

Your rights as a parent

The important lessons you teach your child about healthy relationships, looking after themselves and staying safe, are respected and valued under this new curriculum. Teaching at school will complement and reinforce the lessons you teach your child as they grow up.

Your child's school is required to consult with you when developing and renewing their policies on Relationships Education. These policies must be published online and be available to anybody free of charge.

You can express your opinion, and this will help your child's school decide how and when to cover the content of the statutory guidance. It may also help them decide whether to teach additional non-statutory content. Schools are required to ensure their teaching reflects the age and religious background of their pupils.

Some schools will start to teach these subjects from September 2019 – if you'd like to know more, please speak to your child's school about what they plan to teach.



Right to withdraw your child

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

Your child's primary school can choose to teach Sex Education. If you'd like to know more about this, we recommend speaking to the school to understand what will be taught and when. If you do not want your child to take part in some or all of the lessons on Sex Education, you can ask that they are withdrawn. At primary level, the head teacher must grant this request.

The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.



Department
for Education

If you want to know more about what will be taught as part of the new subjects, the best thing to do is speak to your child's school.

Appendix 4: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS

| | | | |
|---------------|--|-------|--|
| Name of child | | Class | |
|---------------|--|-------|--|

| | | | |
|----------------|--|------|--|
| Name of parent | | Date | |
|----------------|--|------|--|

Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education

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Any other information you would like the school to consider

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| | |
|------------------|--|
| Parent signature | |
|------------------|--|

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL

| | |
|---|--|
| Agreed actions from discussion with parents | Include notes from discussions with parents and agreed actions taken. Eg: Joe Bloggs will be taking part in all relationships lessons and during the sex education lessons, he will be working independently on a project in the Year 5 classroom |
|---|--|

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Staff Signature | |
|-----------------|--|