

SUTTON OAK CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

2026/27

Relationships and Sex Education Policy



Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Vision

Believe achieve and grow together in Christ.

Mission

Inspiring a love of learning, love for one another and faith in God.

Core Christian Values

Friendship, compassion, forgiveness, respect, truthfulness, trust, perseverance and thankfulness.

Vision and Values

Sutton Oak CE Primary School is a Church of England aided primary school. We aim to provide an education that reflects our Christian ethos, rooted in the belief that every person is made in the image of God and loved equally. Our RSE provision supports pupils to 'live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10), promoting dignity, respect, and flourishing for all.

We undertake to follow the principles in the Church of England Education Office Charter for faith-sensitive and inclusive RSHE. This means teaching RSE in a way that:

- - Is inclusive and respectful of difference and diversity.
- - Explains fairly the tenets and varying interpretations of religious communities on matters of sex and relationships.
- - Encourages pupils to cherish themselves and others as unique and wonderfully made.

Statutory Requirements

- - Under Section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, all primary schools must teach Relationships Education.
- - Health Education is compulsory in all state-funded schools.
- - Sex Education is not statutory in primary schools, but schools may choose to teach age-appropriate content beyond the science curriculum.
- - Schools must have regard to the DfE Statutory Guidance (2019, updated July 2025 for implementation September 2026) issued under Section 403 of the Education Act 1996.
- - Schools must comply with the Equality Act 2010 and safeguarding duties under the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

Aims of RSE

Our RSE curriculum aims to:

- - Help pupils form healthy, respectful relationships.
- - Prepare pupils for the changes of puberty and promote health and hygiene.
- - Develop self-respect, confidence, and empathy.
- - Create a positive culture around sexuality and relationships.
- - Teach correct vocabulary for body parts.
- - Equip pupils to stay safe online and offline, including awareness of emerging risks.

At our school, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is delivered as part of a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. Our curriculum is underpinned by the statutory guidance for Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education and is designed to equip pupils with the knowledge, skills and values they need to develop healthy, safe and respectful relationships, make informed decisions and become responsible citizens.

Our curriculum combines the strengths of the **Dimensions PSHE Programme** and **Pol-Ed enquiries**, organised through four key themes:

- Relationships
- Keeping Safe
- Understanding the Law
- Wellbeing

This progressive curriculum enables pupils to revisit and deepen their understanding of key concepts throughout their primary education.

Content will be age-appropriate, inclusive, and taught in a safe, supportive environment.

Intent

Our RSE curriculum aims to:

Relationships

Enable pupils to:

- Build and maintain positive friendships and family relationships.
- Understand respect, kindness, empathy and inclusion.

- Develop communication skills and healthy boundaries.
- Recognise unhealthy relationships and know how to seek support.
- Respect diversity and challenge discrimination.

Keeping Safe

Enable pupils to:

- Recognise risks in real-life and online situations.
- Understand personal safety and privacy.
- Know how to access help in emergencies.
- Understand consent, bodily autonomy and personal boundaries in an age-appropriate manner.
- Develop the knowledge and confidence to stay safe online.

Understanding the Law

Enable pupils to:

- Understand why rules and laws exist.
- Recognise rights and responsibilities.
- Develop financial literacy and responsible decision-making.
- Understand equality, diversity and protected characteristics.
- Become active and responsible members of their communities.

Wellbeing

Enable pupils to:

- Understand physical and mental health.
- Recognise and manage emotions.
- Build resilience and self-esteem.
- Develop healthy lifestyle habits.
- Prepare for change, including puberty and transition to secondary school.

The curriculum is designed to develop children who are respectful, informed, resilient and prepared for the opportunities and challenges of modern life.

Implementation

RSE is delivered through PSHE lessons using a progressive curriculum from EYFS to Year 6.

Lessons are taught through:

- Class discussion
- Enquiry-based learning
- Scenarios and role play
- Reflection activities
- Collaborative learning
- Age-appropriate resources and media

Teachers create safe learning environments where pupils can ask questions and discuss issues appropriately.

Inclusion

Our RSE curriculum is inclusive and reflects:

- Different family structures.
- Diversity within society.
- Protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.
- The needs of all pupils, including those with SEND.

Teaching materials and discussions are adapted to ensure that all children can access and engage with learning.

Safeguarding

Effective RSE contributes to safeguarding by helping pupils:

- Recognise unsafe situations.
- Understand consent and personal boundaries.
- Identify trusted adults.
- Recognise abuse, bullying, grooming and exploitation.
- Know how and when to seek help.

Any safeguarding concerns arising from RSE lessons will be managed in accordance with the school's safeguarding procedures.

Assessment and Monitoring

Assessment is ongoing and formative through:

- Discussion
- Reflection
- Observation
- Pupil voice
- Recorded learning activities

Curriculum leaders monitor implementation through:

- Planning scrutiny
- Lesson visits
- Pupil interviews
- Staff feedback
- Curriculum reviews

Delivery

- - RSE will be taught through PSHE lessons, science curriculum, and cross-curricular links.
- We use Dimensions and Pol-Ed Curriculums to deliver our PSHE and science curriculum.
- - Teachers will receive training to ensure confidence and sensitivity in delivery.

Faith Sensitivity

- - Teaching will reflect the school's Christian ethos and the Church of England's vision for education.
- - Pupils will learn to disagree well, forgive, and live well together.
- - Diverse family structures will be acknowledged respectfully.

Parents' Right to Withdraw

- - Parents cannot withdraw their child from Relationships Education or Health Education.

- - Parents can withdraw their child from any additional Sex Education (beyond science curriculum) after discussion with the headteacher.

Consultation and Review

- - Policy developed in consultation with governors, staff, parents, and pupils.
- - Published on the school website.
- - Reviewed annually or sooner if statutory guidance changes.

Statutory Requirements

This policy reflects the requirements of:

- The Children and Social Work Act 2017.
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education statutory guidance.
- The Equality Act 2010.
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

The curriculum meets statutory Relationships Education and Health Education requirements through the planned progression from EYFS to Year 6 within the four curriculum areas of Relationships, Keeping Safe, Understanding the Law and Wellbeing.

Policy Adopted by Governing Body: November 2026

Review: November 2028

Signature: *C Milow*