



Peppard Church of England Primary School

RSE Policy 2025-2026

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RSE Policy

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1. Aims

The aim of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at Peppard Church of England Primary School is to support pupils' **personal development, wellbeing, dignity and safety**, in a way that is **age-appropriate, inclusive, and consistent with our Christian vision and values**.

RSE aims to help pupils:

- Develop **healthy, respectful and positive relationships**
- Understand the importance of **love, commitment, forgiveness and respect**
- Build **self-esteem, confidence and resilience**
- Learn how to **keep themselves safe**, including online
- Understand and respect **difference and diversity**
- Prepare for the **physical and emotional changes of puberty**
- Use **accurate scientific vocabulary** to describe their bodies and feelings
- Know **where and how to seek help or advice** when needed

RSE at Peppard Church of England Primary School is **not about the promotion of sexual activity**. It is about nurturing the **whole child**, enabling pupils to flourish and live life in all its fullness.

2. Statutory Requirements

Peppard Church of England Primary School is a **maintained primary school in England** and complies with the following statutory requirements:

- **Children and Social Work Act 2017 (Section 34)** – Relationships Education is mandatory for all pupils
- **Education Act 1996 (Section 403)** – schools must have regard to statutory guidance and parental rights
- **DfE Statutory Guidance (2019):**
Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education
- **Equality Act 2010**, including the Public Sector Equality Duty
- **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)**

Sex education, beyond what is required in the science curriculum, is **not compulsory in primary schools**.

Parents retain the right to withdraw their child from this element (see Section 8).

The school also ensures that RSE is delivered in line with:

- The school's **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**
- The **Church of England Vision for Education**
- Diocesan guidance on RSE

3. Policy Development

This policy has been developed through a process of consultation and review, involving:

- A review of **DfE statutory guidance and diocesan advice**



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- Staff consultation
- Parent consultation
- Consideration of pupil voice, where appropriate
- Ratification by the governing board

The policy reflects the needs of the school community and is reviewed regularly to ensure ongoing compliance.

4. Definition

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is an integral part of a child's **lifelong learning** about physical, emotional, social and moral development.

At primary level, RSE focuses on:

- Relationships, friendships and family life
- Respect, kindness and empathy
- Personal boundaries and consent
- Keeping safe, including online safety
- Understanding changes associated with growing up

RSE involves:

- Sharing **accurate, age-appropriate information**
- Exploring values and attitudes in a safe environment
- Encouraging reflection and respectful discussion

As a Church of England school, RSE is underpinned by our Christian ethos, recognising the **worth and dignity of every individual**, while respecting the beliefs and backgrounds of all families.

5. Curriculum

The RSE curriculum is set out in **Appendix 1** and reflects DfE statutory expectations.

The curriculum:

- Is **age-appropriate and progressive**
- Is inclusive and respectful of diversity
- Has been developed in consultation with staff, parents and pupils
- Reflects the school's Christian values while remaining inclusive

The curriculum covers the following key areas:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

Biological aspects of RSE are taught through the **science curriculum**, in line with the National Curriculum.

Any additional sex education content beyond science is clearly identified, age-appropriate, and **parents may withdraw their child from this element**.

Teachers respond to pupils' questions sensitively and appropriately, ensuring answers are:

- Honest and factual
- Age-appropriate
- Consistent with safeguarding responsibilities

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is delivered through:

- Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education
- The science curriculum
- Religious Education (RE), where appropriate
- Stand-alone sessions delivered by trained staff

Teaching methods promote:

Encourage one another and build each other up (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Kindness, Respect and Perseverance



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- Open discussion within clear boundaries
- Respect for others' views
- A safe and supportive learning environment

Any disclosures made during RSE lessons are handled in line with the school's **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**, with concerns reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

7. Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Board

- Holds the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Approves and reviews the policy regularly

The Headteacher

- Ensures RSE is delivered consistently
- Manages parental withdrawal requests
- Ensures staff are appropriately trained

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE sensitively and professionally
- Modelling positive attitudes
- Responding to pupils' needs
- Following safeguarding procedures

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to:

- Engage respectfully in RSE lessons
- Treat others with sensitivity and consideration

8. Parents' Right to Withdraw

- Parents **cannot withdraw** their child from Relationships Education
- Parents **can withdraw** their child from sex education that is not part of the science curriculum
- Requests must be made in writing to the headteacher
- Alternative work will be provided where appropriate

9. Training

Staff receive training on RSE as part of:

- Induction
- Ongoing professional development

External specialists (e.g. school nurses) may support delivery where appropriate, under staff supervision.

10. Monitoring and Review

The delivery of RSE is monitored through:

- Learning walks
- Staff feedback
- Pupil voice
- Curriculum review

This policy is reviewed **annually** by the School Development Committee and approved by the governing board.



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Appendix 3: 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			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	