

WOODLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEDGEHOGS NURSERY & SUNBEAMS CLUB



Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy 2026-27

Updated: October 2026

Review: October 2027

Scope and principles

This policy applies to primary-age pupils. Nursery and early years provision supports developmentally appropriate learning through the EYFS, particularly Personal, Social and Emotional Development. Woodlands provides an ambitious, inclusive education rooted in respect, resilience, empathy, self-awareness, passion for learning, excellence, communication and teamwork. Relationships and Health Education, together with carefully planned additional sex education in Year 6, help children develop safe relationships, understand their bodies, respect others and seek help.

Statutory framework

Woodlands has regard to the DfE statutory guidance Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (revised July 2025, in force from 1 September 2026), the Education Act 1996, Education Act 2002, Children and Social Work Act 2017, Equality Act 2010, SEND Code of Practice, National Curriculum for science and current Keeping Children Safe in Education. Relationships Education is compulsory for primary pupils; Health Education is compulsory in state-funded primary schools. The school chooses to provide additional, age-appropriate sex education in Year 6.

Curriculum intent and delivery

Learning progresses from families, friendship, kindness, feelings, body autonomy and asking for help to respect, boundaries, online and offline safety, puberty, relationships and reproduction. The Christopher Winter Project (CWP) Teaching RSE with Confidence in Primary Schools, sixth edition (2026), provides a structured RSE resource; it is not Woodlands' entire PSHE or Health Education curriculum. The school also teaches relevant statutory knowledge through science, PSHE, No Outsiders, online safety, assemblies and the wider Personal Development curriculum. Subject leaders maintain a coverage and progression map, checking that statutory Health Education topics including mental wellbeing, internet safety and harms, physical health, healthy eating, drugs/alcohol/tobacco, health and prevention, first aid and changing adolescent body are covered.

Year-by-year CWP lesson overview

The following titles are taken from the CWP overview.

Year / theme	CWP 2026 overview: lesson titles
Reception - My body, my relationships	Caring Friendships; Being Kind; Different Families; My Body My Choices
Year 1 - Growing up, staying safe	Different Friends; Growing and Changing; Body Safety (Online and Off); Families and Care
Year 2 - Differences	Gender Stereotypes; Male and Female; Naming Body Parts; My Body Belongs to Me
Year 3 - Valuing difference and keeping safe	Body Differences; Personal Space and Consent; Families and People Who Help Us; Staying Safe and Getting Help Online

Year 4 - Growing up with respect	Changes; What is Puberty?; Healthy Friendships; Valuing Difference
Year 5 - Puberty and personal boundaries	Talking about Puberty; The Reproductive System; Puberty, Help and Support; Respect Boundaries and Being an Upstander
Year 6 - Puberty, relationships and reproduction	Puberty and Reproduction; Communication and Consent in Relationships; Families, Conception and Pregnancy; Communication and Respect in Relationships and Online

Additional primary sex education and withdrawal

Woodlands proposes additional sex education in Year 6, including age-appropriate explanation of human conception, pregnancy and birth. The Year 6 CWP lesson “Families, Conception and Pregnancy” is a particular focus for lesson-level review. Before delivery, the school will publish a precise schedule identifying the additional content and will offer parents an opportunity to view relevant materials. Parents cannot withdraw children from statutory Relationships Education, Health Education or National Curriculum science. Parents may request withdrawal from some or all additional primary sex education by writing to the Headteacher (via the class teacher). The Headteacher will offer discussion, record the request and arrangements, and provide appropriate supervised alternative education; parents do not need to give a reason.

Inclusion, SEND and equality

All pupils, including those in mainstream and Specialist Inclusion Base provision, are entitled to appropriate relationships, health and safeguarding education. Staff adapt vocabulary, visual supports, repetition, social stories, sensory environments, pacing, small-group teaching and ways of asking questions without narrowing essential safety knowledge. Teaching respects different family structures, faiths, cultures, disabilities and protected characteristics, and challenges prejudice and discriminatory language. EAL pupils receive suitable vocabulary support.

Safe teaching and safeguarding

Trained and prepared staff teach in a calm, factual and age-appropriate way. Ground rules include respectful listening, no requirement to share personal experiences, and clarity that adults cannot promise secrecy about safeguarding concerns. Staff check resources and visitors in advance, avoid inviting disclosures in whole-class settings and respond to questions sensitively. Concerns, including child-on-child abuse, coercion, exploitation, grooming and online harm, are handled under Woodlands safeguarding procedures, recorded promptly and referred without delay to the DSL or deputy DSL.

Parents, consultation and communication

The school publishes its policy, accessible parent guide and year-by-year curriculum overview, and consults parents when developing or reviewing the policy. Consultation informs school decisions but does not create a veto over statutory teaching. Parents can request information about lesson objectives and view appropriate teaching materials. Ahead of Year 6 additional sex education, the school will explain the content, timing, and withdrawal process.

Roles, monitoring and review

Governors approve the policy and monitor compliance. The Headteacher oversees implementation and withdrawal arrangements. The Personal Development lead coordinates planning, progression, staff confidence, resource checks and communication; the SENCo advises on accessibility and the DSL on safeguarding. Leaders review lesson delivery, pupil voice, assessment, statutory coverage and feedback, reporting relevant findings to governors.

Review date: October 2027, or earlier if required by guidance or substantive curriculum changes.

Related documents

Read alongside Safeguarding and Child Protection, SEND information report and Inclusion Strategy, equality objectives, Behaviour for Learning Policy, online safety, Complaints Policy, science curriculum and the annual curriculum overview.

Appendix A - Request for withdrawal from additional primary sex education

Child’s name and class: _____

Parent/carers name: _____

Additional Year 6 content concerned:

Request or information you wish us to consider (optional):

Parent/carers signature and date: _____

School discussion, outcome and date:

Alternative supervised provision arranged:
