



The Federation of Antrobus St Marks and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School
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Relationship & Sex Education Policy (RSE)

Policy Development and Consultation

This policy has been developed in consultation with:

- Senior Leadership Team
- Headteachers
- Governing Body
- Teaching staff
- Parents and carers through opportunities for feedback
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This policy reflects the Department for Education statutory guidance for *Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education* (updated 2025; mandatory from September 2026) and has been written in line with the Federation's use of the [Twinkl Life PSHE Scheme](https://www.pshe-association.org.uk). ([pshe-association.org.uk](https://www.pshe-association.org.uk))

The policy also reflects guidance from:

- [Department for Education RSHE Guidance](#)
- [PSHE Association](#)
- [Teaching Online Safety in Schools](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)

All staff, governors, parents and carers have access to this policy.

Relationships Education in Primary Schools

Relationships Education is compulsory in all primary schools in England. Sex Education beyond the National Curriculum for Science remains non-statutory in primary schools.

At The Federation of Antrobus St Mark's CE (A) Primary School and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School, Relationships Education is delivered through the [Twinkl Life PSHE Scheme](#), which supports the delivery of statutory Relationships Education and Health Education requirements alongside broader PSHE themes including wellbeing, economic wellbeing, citizenship and safeguarding.

Teaching focuses on the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, including:

- families and people who care for us
- caring friendships
- respectful relationships
- online relationships and digital safety
- personal safety and seeking help
- emotional wellbeing and mental health
- healthy lifestyles and self-care

The updated 2025 statutory guidance places an increased emphasis on online safety, digital wellbeing, healthy boundaries, consent, self-esteem, managing conflict and recognising harmful online content. These themes are embedded progressively throughout the Twinkl Life curriculum. (pse-association.org.uk)

Pupils are taught in an age-appropriate and sensitive manner which reflects the school's Christian vision and values whilst preparing children for life in modern Britain.

At all stages, staff will reinforce that abuse is never the fault of the child and that all pupils have the right to feel safe, respected and valued.

Aims and Outcomes

The aims of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) at the Federation are to:

- support pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- promote positive mental health and emotional wellbeing
- help pupils develop safe, healthy and respectful relationships
- equip pupils with the knowledge to stay safe both online and offline
- encourage resilience, self-worth and respect for others
- prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life
- reflect the Christian ethos and values of the Federation

The Federation uses the [Twinkl Life PSHE Scheme](#) to ensure progression and consistency across all year groups. Lessons are adapted to meet the needs of pupils and the context of the school community.

Relationships and Health Education complement several National Curriculum subjects and links are made where appropriate.

Science

At Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils learn about:

- the main external parts of the body
- human growth and development
- changes from birth to old age
- puberty and reproduction as part of the statutory Science curriculum

Computing

At Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils learn about:

- online safety and digital citizenship
- protecting personal information
- respectful online behaviour

- recognising online risks
- reporting concerns and accessing support

Physical Education (PE)

At Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils learn about:

- healthy and active lifestyles
- physical fitness and wellbeing
- teamwork and cooperation
- the importance of exercise for physical and mental health

Faith Schools

As Church of England schools, we teach Relationships Education within the context of Christian values and the Anglican tradition.

Pupils are encouraged to develop compassion, respect, honesty and responsibility in their relationships with others. Teaching reflects both the teachings of the Anglican Church and the legal requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

Pupils will learn about different families, relationships and communities in an age-appropriate, respectful and inclusive manner.

See Appendix 1 for curriculum content.

Parental Involvement

We recognise that parents and carers are the primary educators of their children in matters relating to relationships and health.

In line with updated statutory guidance, the Federation is committed to working in partnership with parents and carers and promoting transparency regarding curriculum content and resources. ([Twinkl](#))

Parents and carers are invited to view teaching materials and curriculum overviews prior to the teaching of sensitive content, including puberty education in Upper Key Stage 2.

Parents wishing to discuss the curriculum or view materials should contact the appropriate school office.

Responding to Difficult Questions

School staff recognise that views surrounding Relationships and Sex Education may vary.

Teaching will always be delivered in a factual, balanced and age-appropriate manner which encourages pupils to develop informed understanding whilst respecting the beliefs and opinions of others.

Questions will be answered according to pupils' age, maturity and understanding and within the boundaries of the planned curriculum. Staff will use professional judgement and refer safeguarding concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) where appropriate.

Confidentiality and Safeguarding

Safeguarding is central to the Federation's Relationships and Health Education provision.

Lessons may lead to discussions about sensitive topics. Staff are trained to manage these discussions appropriately and understand their responsibilities under [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#).

Pupils will be reminded that staff cannot offer unconditional confidentiality and that any safeguarding concerns must be reported in line with school procedures.

Teaching through the Twinkl Life scheme supports pupils in recognising unsafe situations, identifying trusted adults and knowing how to seek support.

Equality Act 2010

The Federation complies with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

The school will not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their:

- age
- sex
- race
- disability
- religion or belief
- gender reassignment
- pregnancy or maternity
- sexual orientation

Teaching and resources will be inclusive, accessible and reflective of the diverse society in which pupils live.

Pupils with SEND

Relationships and Health Education will be accessible to all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

High-quality teaching will be differentiated and personalised to meet pupils' individual needs, developmental stages and understanding. The Twinkl Life PSHE Scheme supports adaptive teaching approaches and inclusive learning opportunities for all pupils.

Inclusion and LGBT+ Content

The Federation of Antrobus St Mark's CE (A) Primary School and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School is committed to fostering a culture of dignity, respect and inclusion.

Teaching will reflect the diversity of families and relationships in modern Britain and will be delivered in an age-appropriate and sensitive way.

LGBT+ content will be integrated appropriately within teaching about families, respectful relationships, equality and inclusion, rather than being taught as isolated units, in line with statutory guidance.

Links to Other Policies

This policy should be read alongside the following policies:

- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Equality Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- SEND Policy
- Attendance Policy

This Policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

Signed: Chair of the Governing Body

Signed: Head Teacher

Date: