

Policy Name	RSE Policy
Policy Number	POL008
Date of Issue	September 2021
Author	Mr M Walker
Reviewed by	Mr T Cafferky
Date of next review	September 2025

# Policy review dates and changes

Review date	By whom	Summary of changes made	Date implemented
January 2023	Mr T Cafferky	Reviewed no changes	
September 2023	Mr T Cafferky	updated the link to our curriculum overview on Page 7.	
September 2024	Mr T Cafferky	Reviewed no changes	

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#### 1. Aims

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.
- RSE links very closely to our school values of being kind, being curious and being brave.

## 2. Statutory requirements

As a primary academy school we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the <u>Children and Social work act 2017.</u>

We do not have to follow the National Curriculum but we are expected to offer all pupils a curriculum that is similar to the National Curriculum including requirements to teach science which would include the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RSE, we are required by our funding agreements to have regard to <u>guidance</u> issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the <u>Education Act 1996</u>.

At Landau Forte Academy Moorhead we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

### 3. Policy development

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

- 1. Review a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
- 2. Staff consultation all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations. This was done in September 2021 as part of our INSET day.
- 3. Parent/stakeholder consultation parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy. Landau Forte Academy Moorhead sent out parental questionnaires

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- 4. Pupil consultation we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE whereby we discussed with our pupil leadership team.
- 5. Ratification once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified.

#### 4. Definition

RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

RSE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values. RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

#### 5. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

Primary sex education is not statutory, however we have decided to focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1.

## 6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions where appropriate. There may some instances where classes are taught in same sex groups.

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

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

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- Online relationships
- Being safe
- Puberty

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2.

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. Roles and responsibilities

## 7.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RSE policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

#### 7.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from [non-statutory] components of RSE (see section 8).

#### 7.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the [non-statutory components of RSE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher. All class teachers are involved in teaching the RSE curriculum.

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## 7.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

## 8. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the [non-statutory] components of sex education within RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

## 9. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

## 10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by SLT through:

Monitoring long and medium term plans, learning walks and learning in books.

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by SLT annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing body and the head teacher.

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## Appendix 1: Curriculum map

## Relationships and sex education curriculum map

Here is a link to our Curriculum map - file:///N:/PSHE%20&%20RSE%20Curriclum.pdf

Here is an outline of the non-statutory sex education that the children are taught by objectives and resource used to support. These are from the accredited support from Entrust – Inspiring Futures – Y6 unit, which covers topics such as: labelling body parts, puberty changes in boys and girls e.g. menstrual cycle.

# Appendix 2: By the end of primary school pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families and people who care about me	<ul> <li>That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability</li> <li>The characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives</li> </ul>
	• That others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care
	That stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up
	That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong
	How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed

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TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Caring friendships	How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends
	The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties.
	That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded
	That most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right
	How to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed

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TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Respectful relationships	The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs
	Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships
	The conventions of courtesy and manners
	The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness
	• That in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority
	About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help
	What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive
	The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults
Online relationships	That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
	That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous
	• The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them
	How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
	How information and data is shared and used online

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TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Being safe	What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)
	About the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe
	That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact
	How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know
	How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult
	How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard
	How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so
	Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources

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Change Made	Version 1.0
Made By	Mr m Walker