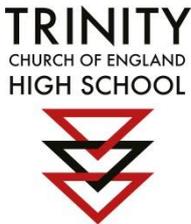


RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

 <p>TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL</p>	Reviewed by:	Pastoral and Ethos Committee
	Approved by:	Full Governing Body
	Date approved:	15 th May, 2025
	Date adopted:	1 st September, 2025
	Next review due by:	End of 2025/26 academic year

AIM/PURPOSE

The aim of the policy is to ensure that relationship and sex education (RSE) is taught with sensitivity through a number of National Curriculum subjects, with the intent to inform and empower our students to form respectful and healthy relationships, whilst ensuring their own safety and wellbeing.

Aims of RSE:

- To contribute to the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students, in line with the ethos of the school.
- To provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place.
- To develop student's self-respect, confidence and empathy.
- To prepare students for the change from young people into young adults, including puberty and hygiene.
- Promote student's self-worth and confidence in recognising acceptable & unacceptable behaviours in relationships, developing healthy relationships of all kinds, and how they can facilitate this.
- To understand how to behave responsibly within all types of relationships, including sexual relationships and the consequences and risks and where to get appropriate advice.
- To promote tolerance and respect towards all of God's children, including LGBT+.
- To inform students about the law relating to sex, sexuality & gender identity, consent and sexual harassment.
- Ensure students are able to identify risks, harmful content and contact, and know how to stay safe from exploitation.

Statutory guidance

The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory for all pupils receiving secondary education.

In teaching RSE, we must have regard to guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996. This policy was developed in response to:

- Statutory guidance on RSE and health education
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Equality Act 2010
- SEND code of practice

Links with other policies:

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- IT policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

This policy conforms to all the recommendations contained within the 'Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, headteachers, principals, senior leadership teams and teachers (June, 2019).

- ◆ RSE is defined as learning about the physical, moral, emotional and legal aspects of human relationships, sexuality and behaviour. It is about understanding the importance of marriage, family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and being safe. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, sexual health and our rights and responsibilities.
- ◆ RSE will be in the context of the school ethos of caring relationships based on respect and tolerance as stated in the aims of the school.
- ◆ RSE will be coherent and comprehensive in coverage, developed from appropriate legislation and structured to ensure that a staged programme is offered to every student, usually in term 3 of an academic year. At KS4, Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) will be taught at specified times during the academic year, with RSE elements covered.
- ◆ RSE does not encourage early sexual experimentation but helps pupils to understand the reasons for delaying sexual activity.
- ◆ It will be normal practice that RSE will be delivered to mixed sex teaching groups and that parents should be aware of this. However, in some circumstances, single sex groupings may be appropriate.
- ◆ At KS3 PSHE is taught as one timetabled lesson per week and at KS4 PSHE (including RSE) will be covered in timetabled Religious Education lessons at appropriate times.
- ◆ PSHE is taught by a dedicated team of teachers, predominantly from the RE/Humanities team, and may include member(s) of SLT taking on a role in the teaching of this subject.
- ◆ In view of the particular nature of RSE, it will be detailed as a separate section on the school website. Further information can also be found on the website under PSHE.

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION AT TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

THE EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF RSE:

RSE is predominantly taught through PSHE and features in religious education (RE), science and IT.

In Personal, Social and Health Education, RSE education is taught as part of a “spiral” curriculum across KS3 and KS4. The aim of these is to enable students to develop and reinforce skills, attitudes and understanding in connection with the way individuals relate to each other. The main themes include; puberty, love, different types of relationships including marriage, personal safety, teenage pregnancies, contraception, issues surrounding sexuality and consent, and where to access help and advice.

In religious education, the GCSE course includes marriage and the family and this covers a variety of topics relating to RSE. Attitudes to: sex and marriage, families, homosexuality and contraception are requirements of the syllabus.

In science, students receive sex education as part of their KS3 course. This is concentrated mainly on the biological aspects including the human life cycle with particular focus on puberty and reproduction as required by the National Curriculum.

At KS5, RSE may be delivered as part of the Enrichment programme and planned delivery will be limited to the content and issues raised in KS4. In exceptional circumstances, where specific issues need to be addressed, the Headteacher’s approval will be required before teaching takes place.

Teaching methodologies are varied and include discussion, video, role play, ranking activities, quizzes, self-reflection, writing and the use of outside agencies.

Feedback will be given by teachers to their students, and self-evaluation opportunities will be provided for students to capture their progress.

The school will continually monitor its sex education programme to see if amendments are able to reassure concerned parents and meet the needs of all pupils.

Right to withdraw your child from Sex Education

Parents cannot withdraw their child from Health Education or the Relationships Education element of RSE because it is important that all students receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

If a parent does not want their child to take part in some or all of the Sex Education lessons delivered at Trinity, then they can ask for their child to be withdrawn. Parents wishing to withdraw their child would need to write to the Head. A meeting would then be arranged where the Head will discuss the request and talk about the benefits of receiving this important information and any detrimental effects that withdrawal might have on their child. Parental request is valid up until three school terms before their child turns 16. At this age, a student can choose to receive Sex Education if they would like to, and the school will arrange for the student to receive this teaching in one of those three terms (unless there are exceptional circumstances).

If a child is to be withdrawn from sex education classes it will be done sensitively so as to minimise any disruption to the child's education.

Specific areas of interest:

Confidentiality and contraceptive advice:

As part of the school's RSE programme teachers will provide:

- ◆ Education about types of contraception and where they can be obtained.
- ◆ Information about where and from whom students can receive confidential advice and support.

AIDS and HIV education (including other sexually transmitted diseases):

This is part of our sex education programme and is taught in science lessons as part of the GCSE course in the infections unit and is also covered as part of PSHE.

Other aspects of sexual behaviour:

In RSE lessons, matters arise that need careful handling. Teachers will use their professional judgement and treat any sensitive issues accordingly. Any concerns are routinely passed to the Safeguarding Team.

Education about Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender + :

Different types of relationships, sexuality and gender will be taught in a sensitive and integrated way to ensure the needs of all pupils are appropriately met. As a School we believe in valuing all God's Children and in the spirit of the school's aims, teachers will undertake to counteract prejudice and victimisation, and promote self-esteem and a sense of responsibility, in line with the Equality Act 2010 and British values of tolerance and respect.

Using outside speakers:

The school is positive about using health professionals to enhance its sex education programme. Such visitors will be made aware of the ethos of Trinity and its RSE policy. They will be expected to provide lesson plans/schemes of work in advance, and information on how the topic will be approached, delivered and followed up.

Equal opportunities:

RSE will be accessible for all pupils, including differentiated and personalised resources to meet any specific needs. For some pupils a bespoke curriculum will be followed to ensure that pupils who are more vulnerable to bullying, exploitation and other issues due to their SEND have their needs fully met.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This will be carried out through the various subject co-ordinators and discussions at Leadership Team. The PSHE coordinator will oversee quality assurance of the RSE provision and ensure it is delivered in an accessible, age appropriate and consistent way. The PSHE co-ordinator will work with colleagues to ensure that the curriculum complements and does not duplicate other national curriculum subjects. Any changes to the policy will be the

responsibility of the Curriculum or Standing Committee and such changes will be ratified by the Full Governing Body.

For further information on what is covered in PSHE please see the school's website which is regularly updated or alternatively click on the hyperlink in the appendix to see the DFE RSE guidance:

<https://learning.trinityhigh.com/course/index.php?categoryid=67>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>