

Relationships and sex education policy

Navigation Primary



Working together, learning together

Approved by: Curriculum Committee

Date: 24th September 2025

Last Review: 27th November 2024

Next review due by: Autumn 2026

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

2. Statutory requirements

As a maintained primary school we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the Children and Social work act 2017. We are not required to provide sex education but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum. 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.

We also have regard to legal duties set out in:

- Sections 404 to 407 of the Education Act 1996.
- Part 6, chapter 1 of the Equality Act 2010
- The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) (as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). This duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities.

At Navigation Primary School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, governors 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
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy
4. 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

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

NPS has developed the curriculum in consultation with stakeholders, considering 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 will 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).

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
- Online relationships
- Being safe
- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to parents [science]
- To consider different ways people might start a family including describing the decisions that have to be made before having children and knowing some basic facts about conception and pregnancy [Y6 non-statutory]

Teachers will make sure that all pupils' views are listened to and will encourage them to ask questions and engage in discussion. Teachers will answer questions sensitively, honestly and appropriately for the age of the pupils.

The programme will be designed to focus on boys as much as girls, and activities will be planned to make sure both are actively involved.

The school will make sure that all teaching and materials are appropriate for the ages and needs of the pupils including any additional needs, such as special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Children will be assessed upon their understanding of the curriculum taught via the activities and discussions completed.

NPS may amend the curriculum content to respond to the needs and context of our pupils, to discuss issues affecting them in an age-appropriate manner. We will inform parents and carers of any deviation from our published policy in advance and share any relevant materials on request.

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life, taking care to make sure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (i.e. families can include single-parent families, same-sex parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents and foster parents among other structures), along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example, looked-after children, young carers or kinship carers).

Across NPS, we will also be mindful of the law and legal requirements, taking care not to condone or encourage illegal activity, such as violent action against people, criminal damage to property or hate crime.

6.1 Inclusivity

We will teach about these topics in a manner that:

- Considers how a diverse range of pupils will relate to them
- Is sensitive to all pupils' experiences
- During lessons, makes pupils feel:
 - Safe and supported
 - Able to engage with the key messages

We will also:

- Make sure that pupils learn about these topics in an environment that's appropriate for them, for example in:
 - A whole-class setting
 - Small groups or targeted sessions
 - 1-to-1 discussions
 - Digital formats
- Give careful consideration to the level of differentiation needed

6.2 Use of resources

We will consider whether any resources we plan to use:

- Are aligned with the teaching requirements set out in the statutory RSE guidance
- Would support pupils in applying their knowledge in different contexts and settings
- Are age-appropriate, given the age and maturity of the pupils
- Are evidence-based and contain robust facts and statistics
- Fit into our curriculum plan
- Are from credible sources
- Are compatible with effective teaching approaches
- Are sensitive to pupils' experiences and won't provoke distress

We will make sure that when we consult parents/carers we provide examples of the resources that the school plans to use.

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The governing board

The governing board will hold the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy.

The governing board has delegated the approval of this policy to Curriculum Committee.

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 members 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 members 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.

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 members are trained on the delivery of RSE 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 the Skills for Life lead [PSHE} through planning scrutinies, learning walks, etc.

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

11. Equalities Statement

Navigation Primary School is committed to keeping all pupils safe and achieving great educational outcomes for all children, including those with protected characteristics as defined by Section 4 of the Equality Act 2010.

Appendix 1: - Relationships and sex education curriculum

Year 6 Puberty, Relationships and Reproduction Key Stage 2			
Scheme of Work		Word Box: Womb, sperm, egg, conception, fertilisation, pregnancy, sexual intercourse, twins, fostering, adoption, relationship, friendship, love, consent, intimacy, communication, personal/private information, internet safety	
Statutory Guidance	Learning Intentions and Learning Outcomes	Lesson Title	Resources
Health Education Mental wellbeing (6c,6d,6f,6g,6i,6j) Changing Adolescent body (8a,8b)	Learning Intention To consider puberty and reproduction Learning Outcomes Describe how and why the body changes during puberty in preparation for reproduction Talk about puberty and reproduction with confidence	Lesson 1 Puberty and Reproduction	Puberty Changes Teacher Guide Puberty Body Part cards Reproduction questions sheet Reproduction answer cards Reproduction whiteboard summary Additional Activities Year 6 Puberty Problem Page Year 6 Puberty Problem Page Cut-outs Year 6 Puberty Problem Page Teacher Guide
Relationships Education Families and people who care for us (1a,1b,1d,1f) Caring friendships (2a,2b,2c) Respectful relationships 3b,3d,3h) Being safe (5a,5b,5c,5d,5e)	Learning Intention Exploring the importance of communication and respect in relationships Learning Outcomes Explain differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships Know that communication and permission seeking are important	Lesson 2 Communication in Relationships	Communication and Touch cards Pupil Questions template
Relationships Education Families and people who care for us (1c,1d,1e) Key Stage 2 Science - recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to parents	Learning Intention To consider different ways people might start a family Learning Outcomes Describe the decisions that have to be made before having children Know some basic facts about conception and pregnancy	Lesson 3 Families, Conception and Pregnancy	Couple pictures How does a baby start? cards (one set per group) How does a baby start? whiteboard summary Pupil Questions from previous lesson - typed Additional Activities Conception and Pregnancy statements Conception and Pregnancy Quiz Conception and Pregnancy Quiz Answers Reproductive System slides
Relationships Education Online relationships (4a,4b,4c,4d,4e) Being safe (5a,5b,5d,5e,5g,5h) Mental wellbeing (6h,6i)	Learning Intention To explore positive and negative ways of communicating in a relationship Learning Outcomes To have considered when it is appropriate to share personal/private information in a relationship To know how and where to get support if an online relationship goes wrong	Lesson 4 Online Relationships	Relationship Question cards Communication Scenario cards Communication Scenarios answers Communication Scenarios whiteboard summary Additional Activities Film clip from www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Year 5

Puberty

Key Stage 2

Scheme of Work

Word Box: Puberty, physical changes, emotional changes, moods, menstruation, periods, tampons, sanitary towels, wet dreams, semen, erection, sweat, breasts, spots, pubic hair, facial hair, underarm hair, sexual feelings

Statutory Guidance	Learning Intentions and Learning Outcomes	Lesson Title	Resources
Health Education Mental wellbeing (6c, 6d,6f,) Changing adolescent body (8a,8b) Menstruation (9a)	Learning Intention To explore the emotional and physical changes occurring in puberty Learning Outcomes Explain the main physical and emotional changes that happen during puberty Ask questions about puberty with confidence	Lesson 1 Talking About Puberty	Puberty Changes Teacher Guide Puberty Changes worksheet Reproductive System slides Pupil Questions template
Health Education Changing adolescent body (8a,8b) Menstruation (9a)	Learning Intention To understand male and female puberty changes in more detail Learning Outcomes Understand how puberty affects the reproductive organs Describe what happens during menstruation and sperm production	Lesson 2 The Reproduction System	Reproductive System slides Puberty Changes Teacher Guide Menstrual cycle animation Male Changes Powerpoint Puberty Card Game Puberty Card Game answer sheet Puberty Card Game whiteboard summary Model materials: spaghetti(fallopian tubes) and poppy seeds (eggs) Selection of menstrual product (tampons, pads, liners, re-usables) Pupil questions from Lesson 1 Additional Activities What is the Menstrual Cycle? cards What is the Menstrual Cycle? whiteboard summary Menstruation Card Game Menstruation Card Game whiteboard summary
Health Education Mental wellbeing (6a,6b,6c, 6d,6e,6f,) Changing adolescent body (8a,8b) Menstruation (9a)	Learning Intention To explore the impact of puberty on the body and the importance of physical hygiene To explore ways to get support during puberty Learning Outcomes Explain how to keep clean during puberty Explain how emotions/relationships change during puberty Know how to get help and support during puberty	Lesson 3 Puberty Help and Support	Kim's Game items and a cloth to cover them (see lesson plan) Kim's Game Teacher Guide Year 5 Puberty Problem Page Year 5 Puberty Problem Page cut-outs Year 5 Problem Page Teacher Guide Pupil questions from Lesson 1 Additional Activities Puberty Bingo cards

Year 4

Growing Up

Key Stage 2

Scheme of Work

Word Box: Puberty, lifecycle, reproduction, physical, breasts, sperm, egg, pubic hair, emotional, feelings

Statutory Guidance

Health Education
Changing adolescent body (8a)
Key Stage 2 Science
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals

Learning Intentions and Learning Outcomes

Learning Intention
To explore the human lifecycle
To identify some basic facts about puberty
Learning Outcomes
Understand that puberty is an important stage in the human lifecycle
Know some changes that happen during puberty

Lesson Title

Lesson 1
[Changes](#)

Resources

[Lifecycle whiteboard summary](#)
[Body Parts Bingo cards](#)
[Bingo Flash cards](#)
[Body Changes pictures](#)
[Lifecycle Quiz slides](#)
[Lifecycle Quiz answers](#)
Additional Activities
[Babies and Children worksheet](#)

Health Education
Mental wellbeing (6a,6b,6c,6d,6f)
Health Education
Changing adolescent body (8a, 8b)
Menstruation (9a)
Key Stage 2 Science
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals
-describe the changes as humans develop to old age

Learning Intention
To explore how puberty is linked to reproduction
Learning Outcomes
Know about the physical and emotional changes that happen in puberty
Understand that children change into adults to be able to reproduce if they choose to

Lesson 2
[What is Puberty?](#)

Bag containing spot cream, deodorant, shaving foam, menstrual pads/tampon, a love heart
[Puberty Card Sort](#)
[Puberty Card Sort whiteboard summary](#)
[Body Changes worksheet](#)
[Puberty Changes Teacher Guide](#)

Suggested Reading
Where Willy Went, Nicholas Allan
Hair in Funny Places, Babette Cole

Relationships Education
Caring friendships (2b,2c,2d,2e)
Respectful relationships (3a,3b,3d,3e,3f,3h)
Online relationships (4b,4d)

Learning Intention
To explore respect in a range of relationships
To discuss the characteristics of healthy relationships
Learning Outcomes
Know that respect is important in all relationships including online
Explain how friendships can make people feel unhappy or uncomfortable.

Lesson 3
[Healthy Relationships](#)

[Healthy Friendships cards](#)
[Relationship pictures](#)
Online Respect and Self-Respect video
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZtXwLzlpk>

Valuing Difference and Keeping Safe Key Stage 2

Scheme of Work

Word Box: Stereotypes, gender roles, similar, different, male, female, private parts, penis, testicles, vulva, vagina, uterus, family, fostering, adoption, relationship

Statutory Guidance	Learning Intentions and Learning Outcomes	Lesson Title	Resources
Relationships Education Respectful relationships (3a)	Learning Intention To identify that people are unique and to respect those differences To explore the differences between male and female bodies Learning Outcomes Know and respect the body differences between ourselves and others Name male and female body parts using agreed words	Lesson 1 Body Differences	<i>It's OK to be different</i>, Todd Parr Pictures of male and female bodies Body Difference matching cards Additional Activities <i>Cinderella's Bum</i>, Nicholas Allan <i>Shapesville</i>, Andy Mills
Relationships Education Caring friendships (2e) Respectful relationships (3b,3d,3f) Being safe (5a,5b,5c,5d,5f,5g)	Learning Intention To consider appropriate and inappropriate physical contact and consent Learning Outcomes Understand that each person's body belongs to them Understand personal space and unwanted touch	Lesson 2 Personal Space	PANTS cards Unwanted Touch scenarios Additional Activities <i>It's my body - a book about body privacy</i>, Louise Spilsbury and Mirella Mariani
Relationships Education Families and people who care for me (1a,1b,1c,1d,1f) Being safe (5d,5f,5g, 5h)	Learning Intention To explore different types of families and who to go to for help and support Learning Outcomes Understand that all families are different and have different family members Identify who to go to for help and support	Lesson 3 Help and Support	Families pictures Who can I talk to? worksheet <i>The Family Book</i>, Todd Parr Additional Activities <i>Tell Me Again About The Night I Was Born</i>, Jamie Lee Curtis <i>Who's in a Family?</i> Robert Skutch <i>Happy Families</i>, Allan Ahlberg <i>Spark Learns to Fly</i>, Judith Foxon <i>Stranger Danger</i>, Anne Fine

Year 2

Differences

Key Stage 1

Scheme of Work

Word Box: Similar, different, sex, gender roles, stereotypes, boy, girl, male, female, private parts, penis, vulva

Statutory Guidance

Relationships Education
Respectful relationships
(3a,3g)
Key Stage 1 Science
- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body

Learning Intentions and Learning Outcomes

Learning Intention
To introduce the concept of gender stereotypes
To identify differences between males and females
Learning Outcomes
Understand that some people have fixed ideas about what boys and girls can do
Describe the difference between male and female babies

Lesson Title

Lesson 1
[Differences](#)

Resources

2 large PE hoops
[Boy/Girl/Everyone labels](#)
Bag of objects and clothing to explore male and female stereotypes or [Pictures of objects and clothing](#)
[Clothed Babies picture cards](#)
[Clothed Babies whiteboard summary](#)
[Pictures of newborn babies](#)
Suggested reading:
Pearl Power and the Toy Problem, Mel Elliott
Julian is a Mermaid, Jessica Love
Are you a boy or are you a girl, Sarah Savage and Fox Fisher
Princess Smartypants, Babette Cole
William's Doll, Charlotte Zolotow
Amazing Grace, Mary Hoffman and Caroline Binch

Relationships Education
Respectful relationships (3a)
Key Stage 1 Science
- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults

Learning Intention
To explore some of the differences between males and females and to understand how this is part of the lifecycle
Learning Outcomes
Describe some differences between male and female animals
Understand that making a new life needs a male and a female

Lesson 2
[Male and Female Animals](#)

Talking object
[Pictures of male and female animals](#)
[Cats and Kittens worksheet](#)
Anatomically correct toy farm animals

Key Stage 1 Science
-Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body

Learning Intention
To focus on sexual difference and name body parts
Learning Outcomes
Describe the physical differences between males and females
Name the different body parts

Lesson 3
[Naming Body Parts](#)

2 large PE Hoops
[Hoop labels](#)
[Body Parts picture cards](#)
[Female x-ray picture](#)
[Body Parts worksheet](#)
Suggested reading:
Shapesville, Andy Mills
It's OK to be Different, Todd Parr

Growing & Caring For Ourselves Key Stage 1

Scheme of Work

Word Box: Friends, feelings, similar, different, family, boy, girl, male, female, private parts, penis, vulva

Statutory Guidance	Learning Intentions and Learning Outcomes	Lesson Title	Resources
Relationships Education Respectful relationships (3a,3e) Healthy Education Mental wellbeing (6b,6c)	Learning Intention To understand that we are all different but can still be friends Learning Outcomes Know that we can be friends with people who are different to us	Lesson 1 Different Friends	Talking object Story bag containing an elephant puppet (or the elephant picture) and a school jumper or shirt if the school has one. Paper and coloured pencils
Key Stage 1 Science - Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body	Learning Intention To discuss how children grow and change Learning Outcomes Understand that babies need care and support Know that older children can do more by themselves	Lesson 2 Growing and Changing	Talking object Story bag containing Pictures of newborn babies Lifecycle picture cards Lifecycle word cards Lifecycle whiteboard summary
Relationships Education Families and people who care for me (1a,1b,1c,1d,1f) Caring friendships (2e) Respectful relationships (3a,3e) Being Safe (5d,5e) Health Education Mental wellbeing (6b,6c)	Learning Intention To explore different types of families and who to ask for help To identify who can help when families make us feel unhappy or unsafe Learning Outcomes Know there are different types of families Know which people we can ask for help	Lesson 3 Families and Care	Talking object Story bag - containing a ball and a school jumper Families pictures <i>The Family Book</i>, Todd Parr

Reception

Family and Friendship

Scheme of Work

Word Box: Friendship, kindness, happy, sad, shy, feelings, lonely, sorry, angry, family, mum, dad, brother, sister, grandma, grandad, stepmum, stepdad, foster mum, foster dad.

Statutory Guidance	Learning Intentions and Learning Outcomes	Title	Resources
Relationships Education Caring friendships (2a,2c) Health Education Mental wellbeing (6b,6c,6g)	Learning Intention To recognise the importance of friendship Learning Outcomes Know that friendships can make us feel happy Know some ways that we can make new friends feel welcome	Lesson 1 Caring Friendships	Elephant glove puppet or toy Pictures of children at school
Relationships Education Caring friendships (2d) Health Education Mental wellbeing (6b,6c)	Learning Intention To recognise the importance of saying sorry and forgiveness Learning Outcomes Know that arguing with friends and then making up can make friendships stronger That resorting to violence is never right	Lesson 2 Being Kind	Elephant glove puppet or toy Picture of a crown and art materials to make crowns, i.e. paper or play-doh
Relationships Education Families and people who care for me (1a) Caring friendships (2a) Respectful relationships (3a)	Learning Intention To recognise that all families are different Learning Outcomes Identify different members of the family Understand how members of a family can help each other	Lesson 3 Families	Elephant glove puppet or toy <i>The Family Book</i> , Todd Parr Families pictures Paper and drawing materials

EYFS will also cover the Pants rules using NSPCC resources.

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

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families and people who care about me	• That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability • 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 • 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
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
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

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
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
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

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	