

Creating outstanding schools which transform learning, lives and communities

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Our school recognises the importance that RSE can play in contributing to the development of healthy young people and this policy is designed to ensure that our students have access to all the teaching and resources that are required to enable them to make prudent judgements about sex and relationships.

2.0 AIMS

- 2.1 The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:
 - Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
 - Prepare students for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
 - Help students develop feelings of self-respect, confidence, and empathy
 - Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
 - Teach students the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- 2.2 The objective of RSE is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional, and moral development. A successful programme, firmly embedded in PSHE, will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. This is especially important given the findings of the OFSTED review of Sexual Abuse and Harassment in schools and colleges.
- 2.3 The school will aim to:
 - Foster self-esteem, self-awareness, and a sense of personal moral responsibility
 - Encourage self-respect and consideration for others
 - Help develop skills in communication, decision-making and assertiveness
 - Prepare students to avoid unnecessary risks and dangers

3.0 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 As a Secondary academy school we must provide RSE to all students as per section 34 of the Children and Social work act 2017.
- 3.2 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>. This includes recent and updated guidance from the Department for Education around Sexual Violence and sexual Harassment in schools and colleges and found in Keeping Children Safe in Education Part 5.
 - At Burnley High School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.
- 3.3 Our school pays due regard to the legal requirements around political impartiality when delivering its RSE curriculum, particularly when working with external organisations or any material produced by them
- 3.4 Our school also pays due regard to our requirements under the Equality Act and Public Sector Equality Duty when planning and teaching RSE, to create an inclusive classroom



4.0 DEFINITION OF RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

- 4.1 RSE is about the emotional, social, and cultural development of students, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity, and personal identity.
- 4.2 RSE involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values. RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.
- 4.3 RSE is "lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love, and care. It is about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health. It is also about the development of the student's knowledge and understanding of himself/herself as a sexual being, about what it means to be fully human, called to live in a right relationship with oneself, others and being enabled to make moral decisions according to an informed conscience.

5.0 OBJECTIVES AND CURRICULUM

5.1 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, students, and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of students. We will continue to consult with parents, students and staff when reviewing this policy. If students 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.

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

- 5.2 The school will endeavour to deliver relationship and sex education within a moral and values framework. This will be done through:
 - Promotion of abstinence before the age of consent
 - Promotion of committed relationships and the value of family life
 - Teaching self-respect, dignity, self-restraint and respect for others
 - Promotion of tolerance of all types of relationships, religions, and personal views
 - Encourage students to reflect on their own relationships to develop an understanding of themselves, their sexuality and that of others so that their attitudes in relation to sexual activity are caring and responsible
 - Ensure that students appreciate the benefits of stable married life and the responsibilities of parenthood
 - Help students recognise the physical, emotional, and moral risks of casual and promiscuous sexual behaviour
 - Present biological facts in an objective and balanced manner and to use appropriate terminology to enable students to discuss issues without embarrassment or fear of ridicule
 - Develop an awareness of an individual's legal responsibilities in relation to sexual behaviour
 - Ensure other models of family and relationships are recognised and understood
 - Using up to date information and resources



- Ensuring staff are confident in delivering sex education and using specialists to deliver areas of the curriculum where appropriate
- Regular reviewing of the RSE programme to ensure it meets the needs of students

6.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY

6.1 **Headteacher**: is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw students from [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE.

6.2 **Staff:**

Staff are responsible for:

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

- 6.3 **Students:** all students should be willing to listen and ask questions whilst being aware that a variety of other views exist regarding moral issues related to RSE. They will be expected to have a concern for, and accept responsibility for, his/her knowledge and understanding of his/her sexual development. The Wider Community: the school will make appropriate use of external agencies and their personnel. All outside speakers and visiting agencies will meet with The Headteacher and Assistant Head to discuss content and delivery of sex education related to topics. They will be made aware of School's Relationship and Sex Education policy and be expected to work within it. Visiting speakers will always be a way of enhancing the programme not as a substitute for it.
- 6.4 **Parents:** recognising that parents are the primary educators of their children; the school will seek to support them in this task. We will ensure that parents are kept informed of RSE within the school, and of our expectations of their children.
- 6.5 **Governors:** governors are consulted on the development of the policy and kept informed of RSE within the school.

7.0 DELIVERY

- 7.1 RSE will be taught as part of the timetabled curriculum in KS1-4, Science and Citizenship curricula. It will also be enhanced through super learning days. For students who are absent during these days catch up sessions will be provided.
- 7.2 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).



RSE focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds including:

- Families
- Respectful relationships, including friendships
- Online and media
- Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

Topics around Sex Education will be delivered each half term.

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

7.3 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).

7.4 Use of external organisations and materials

We will make sure that an agency and any materials used are appropriate and in line with our legal duties around political impartiality.

The school remains responsible for what is said to students. This includes making sure that any speakers, tools and resources used don't undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

We will:

- Make appropriate checks and engage with external agencies to make sure that their approach to teaching about RSE is balanced, and it and the resources they intend to use:
 - Are age-appropriate
 - Are in line with students' developmental stage

Comply with:

- This policy
- The <u>Teachers' Standards</u>
- The <u>Equality Act 2010</u>
- The <u>Human Rights Act 1998</u>
- The Education Act 1996
- Only work with external agencies where we have full confidence in the agency, its approach and the resources it uses
- Make sure that any speakers and resources meet the intended outcome of the relevant part of the curriculum
- Review any case study materials and look for feedback from other people the agency has worked with



- Be clear on:
 - What they're going to say
 - Their position on the issues to be discussed
- Ask to see in advance any materials that the agency may use
- Know the named individuals who will be there, and follow our usual safeguarding procedures for these people
- Conduct a basic online search and address anything that may be of concern to us, or to parents and carers
- Check the agency's protocol for taking pictures or using any personal data they might get from a session
- Remind teachers that they can say "no" or, in extreme cases, stop a session
- Make sure that the teacher is in the room during any sessions with external speakers

We won't, under any circumstances:

- Work with external agencies that take or promote extreme political positions
- Use materials produced by such agencies, even if the material itself is not extreme

8.0 PARENTS' RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

- 8.1 Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the [non-statutory/non-science] components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this.
- 8.2 Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher.
- 8.3 A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the student's educational record. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.
- 8.4 Alternative work will be given to students who are withdrawn from sex education.

9.0 TRAINING

- 9.1 Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.
- 9.2 The PSHE Co-ordinator 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.

10.0 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

10.1 Any complaints about the sex education curriculum should be made to the Headteacher to be dealt with in line with the school's complaint policy.

11.0 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

- 11.1 The delivery of RSE is monitored by Natalie Lewis (Head teacher) and the Assistant Heads through:
 - Learning walks



- Student voice
- Work scrutinies

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

APPENDIX 1: RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION CURRCIULUM MAP

YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 7	Autumn 2	Diversity Diversity, prejudice and bullying	
Year 7	Spring 2	Building relationships Self-worth, romance and friendships (including online) and relationship boundaries. Learning intentions include: • how to develop self-worth and self-efficacy • about qualities and behaviours relating to different types of • positive relationships • how to recognise unhealthy relationships • how to recognise and challenge media stereotypes • how to evaluate expectations for romantic relationships • about consent, and how to seek and assertively communicate • consent • how to make healthy lifestyle choices including diet, dental	



YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 7	Summer 2	Health and Puberty Healthy routines, influences on health, puberty, unwanted contact, and FGM. Learning intentions include: • how to make healthy lifestyle choices including diet, dental • health, physical activity and sleep • how to manage influences relating to caffeine, smoking and alcohol • how to manage physical and emotional changes during puberty • about personal hygiene • how to recognise and respond to inappropriate and unwanted contact • about FGM and how to access help and support	
Year 8	Autumn 2	Discrimination Discrimination in all its forms, including: racism, religious discrimination, disability, discrimination, sexism, homophobia, biphobia and transphobia how to manage influences on beliefs and decisions. Learning intentions include: • about group-think and persuasion • how to develop self-worth and confidence • about gender identity, transphobia and gender-based discrimination • how to recognise and challenge homophobia and biphobia • how to recognise and challenge racism and religious discrimination	



YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 8	Spring 2	Identity and relationships Gender identity, sexual orientation, consent, 'sexting', and an introduction to Contraception. Learning intentions include: • the qualities of positive, healthy relationships • how to demonstrate positive behaviours in healthy relationships • about gender identity and sexual orientation • about forming new partnerships and developing relationships • about the law in relation to consent	RESOURCES
		 that the legal and moral duty is with the seeker ofconsent how to effectively communicate about consent in relationships about the risks of 'sexting' and how to manage requests or pressure to send an image about basic forms of contraception, e.g. condom and pill 	



YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 9	Spring 2	Respectful relationships Families and parenting, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, and relationship changes. Learning intentions include: • about different types of families and parenting, including single • parents, same sex parents, blended families, adoption and fostering • about positive relationships in the home and ways to reduce • homelessness amongst young people • about conflict and its causes in different contexts, e.g. with family and friends • conflict resolution strategies • how to manage relationship and family changes, including • relationship breakdown, separation and divorce	RESOURCES
		how to access support services	



YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 9	Summer 1	Intimate relationships Relationships and sex education including consent, contraception, the risks of STIs, and attitudes to pornography. Learning intentions include: • about readiness for sexual activity, the choice to delay sex, or • enjoy intimacy without sex • about myths and misconceptions relating to consent • about the continuous right to withdraw consent and capacity to consent • about STIs, effective use of condoms and negotiating safer sex • about the consequences of unprotected sex, including pregnancy • how the portrayal of relationships in the media and pornography might affect expectations • how to assess and manage risks of sending, sharing or passing on sexual images • how to secure personal information online	



YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 10	Spring 2	Prevent extremism and radicalisation Community cohesion and challenging extremism. Learning intentions include: about communities, inclusion, respect and belonging about the Equality Act, diversity and values about how social media may distort, mis-represent or target information in order to influence beliefs and opinions how to manage conflicting views and misleading information how to safely challenge discrimination, including online how to recognise and respond to extremism and radicalisation	



YEAR GROUP TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 10 Summer 2	Healthy relationships Relationships and sex expectations, myths, pleasure and challenges, including the impact of the media and pornography. Learning intentions include: • about relationship values and the role of pleasure in relationships • about myths, assumptions, misconceptions and social norms about sex, gender and relationships • about the opportunities and risks of forming and conducting relationships online • how to manage the impact of the media and pornography on sexual attitudes, expectations and behaviours • about the ethical and legal implications in relation to consent, including manipulation, coercion, and capacity to consent • how to recognise and respond to pressure, coercion and exploitation, including reporting and accessing appropriate support • how to recognise and challenge victim blaming • about asexuality, abstinence and celibacy	



YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 11	Spring 1	Communication in relationships Personal values, assertive communication (including in relation to contraception and sexual health), relationship challenges and abuse. Learning intentions include:	



YEAR GROUP	TERM	TOPIC/THEME DETAILS	RESOURCES
Year 11	Spring 2	Families Different families and parental responsibilities, pregnancy, marriage and forced marriage and changing relationships about different types of families and changing family structures. Learning intentions include: • how to evaluate readiness for parenthood and positive • parenting qualities • about fertility, including how it varies and changes • about pregnancy, birth and miscarriage • about unplanned pregnancy options, including abortion • about adoption and fostering • how to manage change, loss, grief and bereavement • about 'honour based' violence and forced marriage and how to safely access support	



APPENDIX 2: WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW

BY THE END OF PRIMARY EDUCATION STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Families and	■ That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability
people who care about me	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	 How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends
friendships	■ 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



TOPIC	STUDENTS 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



TOPIC	STUDENTS 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

BY THE END OF SECONDARY EDUCATION STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Families	 That there are different types of committed, stable relationships
	 How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children
	 What marriage is, including their legal status e.g. that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples
	who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony
	 Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into
	 The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships
	 The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting
	 How to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend,
	intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others' relationships); and, how to seek help or advice,
	including reporting concerns about others, if needed



Respectful relationships,	 The characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships 					
including	This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship					
friendships	 Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships 					
	 How stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice) 					
	 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 people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs					
	 About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help 					
	 That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control 					
	 What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable 					
	 The legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined 					
	in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal					
Online and media	 Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online 					
	 About online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online 					
	 Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online 					
	 The impact of viewing harmful content 					
	 That specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners 					
	 That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail 					
	 How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online 					
Being safe	■ The concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape,					
	domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships					
	 How people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online) 					



Intimate and			
sexual			
relationships,			
including sexual			
health			

- How to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship
- That all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g. physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing
- The facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women
- That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others
- That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex
- The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available
- The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage
- That there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help)
- How the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing
- About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment
- How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour
- How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment

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							