



Benfieldside Primary School

Relationships Education Policy 2021

The Importance of Relationship Education

This policy covers our approach to Relationships Education; a statutory component of the PSHE curriculum from September 2020. We define Relationships Education as learning about the many strands of relationships and growing up. This includes family relationships, friendships and relationships with peers and adults, healthy and unhealthy relationships, the characteristics of positive relationships, relationships online and the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up.

Statutory Requirements

Relationships education is compulsory in primary schools from 2020, so all pupils must take part in these lessons.

Sex education is not compulsory for primary schools. Pupils will learn about puberty from the school nurse, as part of the science curriculum in years 5 and 6. Other aspects of sex education will not be covered unless safeguarding concerns determine otherwise. Parents will be informed if this is necessary.

Aims

At Benfieldside our values of Happiness, Perseverance and Respect provide the basis for all Relationship Education. We aim to provide all pupils with:

- The knowledge and understanding of a variety of relationships
- The ability to identify any concerns they have about a relationship
- Coping strategies and an awareness of how and where to seek support
- An understanding of their rights and responsibilities within a range of relationships
- An awareness of the process of growing up and the changes they and others will experience
- An understanding of the characteristics of positive relationships

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:-

Anti-Bullying
Equal opportunities
PSHE
Religious Education
Science

Organisation / Provision

Our inclusive Relationships curriculum supports the objectives set out by the PSHE Association which meet the statutory requirements for Key Stage 1 and 2. It forms a

core part of our comprehensive Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

Relationships education is delivered within a whole school approach, which includes:

- dedicated curriculum time
- teaching Relationships Education through, and in other subjects/curriculum areas
- circle time
- specialised assemblies
- visitors
- pastoral care and guidance

Relationships within School

Relationships at Benfeldside are based on an atmosphere of trust and respect for everyone. Our school values are Respect, Perseverance and Happiness. These values are celebrated every week during our Reward assembly held on a Friday. All staff and volunteers provide very good role models for children and work hard to promote a safe, happy environment. The children have an active School Council where two children from each class (year 3 to year 6) are elected to represent the class's views.

Parents' right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education or the programme of study as it is part of the requirements of the science curriculum. The school will continue to teach the science curriculum as set out in the National Curriculum.

Safeguarding

All staff are aware that effective Relationships Education, which brings about an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. In this instance, staff members will consult with the designated safeguarding leads, Mrs Addison, Mrs Rowell, Mr Wright, Mrs Kerry (formerly Mrs Coombe), and Miss Clarkson.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Children are informally assessed by staff throughout their work and the reports given to parents will reflect this. Recording of work will be in a form appropriate to the planned focus. Evidence of Relationships Education will be in a variety of forms, for example, photographs and displays as well as written work. The very nature of Relationships Education means that careful consideration should be given to the best means of recording. Written work may not always be appropriate and staff will use their professional judgement in this.

Monitoring and evaluation

Staff delivering the Relationships curriculum will critically reflect on their teaching and best practice will be shared through monitoring of planning, and children's work.

Policy written by: Helen Harbinson (subject leader)

School governor representative responsible for Relationships Education is Mrs Victoria Knapp

Policy to be renewed: On an annual basis by RSE lead

Date of next review: April 2022