

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades, creating a modern and dynamic feel. The shapes are primarily triangular and polygonal, with some areas appearing more translucent than others.

Relationships and Sex Education Consultation

Presentation for Parents

What is the purpose of this consultation?

- ▶ The Department for Education is introducing compulsory Relationships and Health Education from September 2020 for all primary schools. Due to the impact of Covid-19 this has now been pushed back to no later than the start of the summer term 2021.
- ▶ As a school, we would always want to deliver a curriculum which has the support of the vast majority, if not all, parents.
- ▶ The purpose of the consultation is to explore the values we have in common as a community and to find out if there are any beliefs or practices that are important to your family or your culture/faith that we need to be aware of.

What does the guidance from DFE mean?

- Statutory guidance was published in June 2019.
- Relationship Education will be **compulsory** in all schools with primary schools being urged to include sex elements where appropriate
- Health Education will be **compulsory** in all schools
- All schools must have a written **policy** for RSE
- ‘All schools may teach about faith perspectives’ and ‘balanced debate may take place about issues that are seen as contentious’. Religious leaders from different faith backgrounds have been involved in developing the RSE curriculum
- ‘Schools should ensure that the **needs of all pupils are appropriately met**’ - must comply with the **Equality Act 2010** and protect individuals from discrimination. There are 9 protected characteristics (aspects of a person’s identity)
- Puberty including **menstruation** should be ‘**addressed before onset**’.

Why is Relationships and Health Education important?

- ▶ Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.
- ▶ We recognise that children need an increasing level of skill to deal with the modern world and the impact of social networking, advertising and media.
- ▶ We would want all pupils to grow with the knowledge of natural changes before they happen, and pupils can encounter puberty at a relatively young age.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)

- ▶ Sefton Park Schools uses the PSHE Association to support the effective teaching of Relationships Education and Health Education. The PSHE Association Programme of Study for Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education has three strands (Health & Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World)

Overview of Teaching Expectations

Relationships Education (Primary)	Physical Health and Mental Well Being (Primary)
Families and People who care for me	Mental Wellbeing
Caring Friendships	Internet Safety and Harms
Respectful Relationships	Physical Health and Fitness
Online Relationships	Healthy Eating
Being Safe	Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
	Health and Prevention
	Basic First Aid
	Changing Adolescent Body

Sex Education

- ▶ The Department for Education continues to recommend that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and maturity of the pupils.
- ▶ All children must be taught the aspects of sex education outlined in the primary science curriculum - that includes teaching about the main external parts of the human body, how a body changes as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty, and the reproductive process in some plants and animals. We do not teach children sex education beyond what is required in the science curriculum, except in Year 5 and 6.

What is covered in the science curriculum?

- ▶ In KS1 - Pupils should be taught to notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. They should also be introduced to the processes of reproduction and growth in animals. The focus at this stage should be on questions that help pupils to recognize growth; they should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs. The National Curriculum expects us to teach the correct terminology for the external parts of the body in Year 2. If this comes up beforehand, then we will use the correct anatomical names.
- ▶ In Upper KS2 (Y5/6) - Pupils should be taught to describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird and describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- ▶ Pupils should be taught to describe the changes as humans develop to old age. Pupils should draw a timeline to indicate stages in the growth and development of humans. They should learn about the changes experienced in puberty.

Why are LGBT+ issues included?

The DFE have stated:

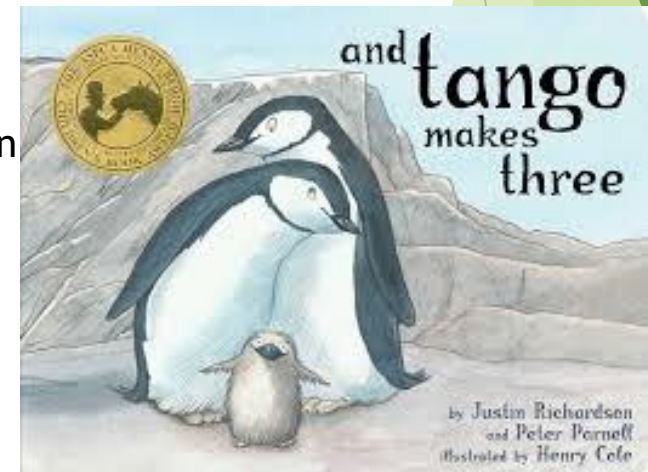
“Pupils should be able to understand the world in which they are growing up, which means understanding that some people are LGBT+, that this should be respected in British society, and that the law affords them and their relationships recognition and protections”

We believe that all pupils should be taught about the society in which they are growing up. Relationships Education is designed to foster respect for others and for difference and educate pupils about healthy relationships.

The children in our school come from a range of family backgrounds and life experiences. Throughout our school we show respect for others and celebrate our differences. It is important to us that all our children feel included, represented and valued.

Sexual orientation is a protected characteristic, as defined by the Equality Act 2010. Schools must ensure they comply with the relevant provisions of the Act.

When teaching, the religious background of all pupils will be taken into account when planning teaching.



Can I withdraw my child?

- ▶ Parents have the right to withdraw their child/children from taking part in sex education lessons that go beyond what is required in the science curriculum.
- ▶ We have concluded that sex education refers to Human Reproduction, and therefore parents can request their child be withdrawn from lessons that explicitly teach this.
- ▶ There is no right to withdraw from Relationships or Health Education at primary or secondary as we believe the contents of these subjects - such as family, friendship, safety, (including online safety) and emotional wellbeing - are important for all children to be taught.