



July 2024

Making the difference

Curriculum Policy: Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy



1. Rationale

Vranch House School recognises the importance of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) as part of a broad and balanced curriculum that supports the physical, emotional, moral, and social development of all pupils. RSE at Vranch House is adapted to meet the unique needs of our pupils, many of whom have physical and/or complex learning difficulties.

2. Aims

- To provide pupils with information that is accessible, accurate, and appropriate to their age and level of understanding.
 - To develop pupils' skills and confidence to make healthy, safe, and informed choices.
 - To support pupils in understanding their own bodies, emotions, and relationships.
 - To promote self-esteem, emotional well-being, and respect for themselves and others.
 - To help pupils understand appropriate and inappropriate behaviour and how to seek help.
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3. Legal and Statutory Framework

This policy complies with:

- DfE Statutory Guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (2020)
 - The Children and Social Work Act (2017)
 - The Equality Act (2010)
 - Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE, 2024)
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4. Scope and Delivery

RSE is delivered:

- As part of the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education curriculum.
- Through planned sessions, individualised interventions, and daily interactions.
- In ways that are inclusive of pupils with SEND, using multi-sensory approaches, visual supports, and simplified communication.
- In collaboration with parents/carers and appropriate health professionals (e.g. school nurses, therapists)
- The school has a nominated ambassadors that pupils and families can approach to discuss RSE

5. Curriculum Content

The curriculum includes:

- Early Years and Primary Levels:
 - Understanding families and friendships
 - Identifying body parts (using correct terminology)
 - Keeping safe (including safe touch and personal space)
 - Understanding feelings and how to communicate them
- Upper Primary and Secondary Levels:
 - Puberty and physical/emotional changes
 - Personal hygiene and self-care
 - Consent, privacy, and boundaries
 - Healthy and unhealthy relationships
 - Introduction to reproduction, appropriate to cognitive level

All content is adapted to the learning profiles of the pupils and delivered with sensitivity.

6. Safeguarding and Confidentiality

RSE will be delivered in line with the school's safeguarding and child protection policy. Any disclosures or concerns that arise during RSE sessions will be handled in accordance with safeguarding protocols. Staff cannot offer confidentiality where there are concerns about the safety or welfare of a child.

7. Staff Roles and Training

- RSE will be primarily delivered by class teachers and teaching assistants who know the pupils best.
- Staff will receive regular training in RSE delivery, safeguarding, and communicating about sensitive topics with pupils with SEND.
- External professionals may be invited to contribute where appropriate, under supervision.

8. Parental Involvement

Parents and carers are:

- Informed of the RSE content through curriculum outlines and consultation meetings.
- Encouraged to communicate any specific needs or concerns regarding their child.
- Entitled to withdraw their child from aspects of sex education (not relationships education or health education), in line with DfE guidance.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

- The RSE programme will be reviewed annually in consultation with staff, governors, and parents.
- Feedback from pupils, parents, and staff will inform improvements.
- Individual progress will be monitored through PSHE learning outcomes and EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) targets where relevant.

10. Accessibility and Inclusion

All pupils, regardless of their ability or disability, gender, cultural background, or religious belief, have the right to receive effective RSE. Teaching methods and materials are adapted accordingly to:

- Be accessible via AAC, visuals, and symbols
- Reflect a range of relationships and family structures
- Promote inclusivity and respect for diversity

Date of Review: July 2024

Next Review Due: July 2026

Approved by: Head of Education



