

# Relationships and Sex Education Policy - appendix

Hillocks Primary Academy

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## **1 and 2 Introduction and Purpose of the Policy**

At Hillocks Primary Academy, relationship, sex and health education contributes to the foundation of PHSE and Citizenship by ensuring that all our children

- Have the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, online relationships and relationships with other children and adults.
- Are taught about positive emotional and mental well-being, including how friendships can support us in making us feel happy and secure.
- Understand what is a family and that families have many forms and can include single parent families, LGBTQ+ parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents and carers amongst other structures.
- Develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships.
- Establish personal space and boundaries, knowing when this is safe and unsafe, and showing respect and understanding of each other's differences.
- Are able to name parts of the body, describe how their bodies work and how to keep ourselves physically and mentally healthy.
- Can protect themselves and ask for help and support.
- Understand about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting to an adult) and how to get help.
- Are prepared for puberty.
- Are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the National Curriculum for science – how a baby is conceived and born.

## **3 and 4 Roles and responsibilities**

At Hillocks Primary academy, teachers are responsible for the delivery of the RSHE program. The academy may on occasion use external agencies such as health care professionals to assist staff

## **5 Aims and Objectives**

Hillocks Primary Academy follows all aspects set out in the [Diverse Academies Relationships and Sex Education Policy](#)

## **6 Content and Organisation**

At Hillocks Primary School, we have identified the key concepts and skills to be taught through PSHE education and a broad range of themes through which these can be developed, expanded and rehearsed. PSHE education addresses both children's current experiences and preparation for their future. Our curriculum, which is organised into a series of recurring themes aims to develop knowledge, skills and attributes, where prior learning is revisited, reinforced and extended year on year.

### **Early Years Foundation Stage**

During EYFS, the Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage is used to support staff in implementing areas of learning and development. Children will develop their personal, social and emotional skills through exploring the following areas:

- Making relationships
- Self-confidence and self-awareness
- Managing feelings and behaviour

### **Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2**

In Years 1-6 our curriculum sets out learning opportunities based on three core themes:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the wider world

RSE will be taught through PSHE lessons, curriculum days or weeks or subject drivers. The grid below shows the PSHE curriculum along with specific RSE learning intentions for each year group. Please see the school website for long term planning documents.

### **Right to Withdraw**

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships and Health Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe. The science curriculum also includes content on human development, including animal and plant reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.

## **7 Sensitive Issues.**

RHSE plays a very important part in fulfilling the statutory duties all schools have to meet. RSHE helps children understand the difference between safe and abusive relationships and equips them with the skills to get help if they need it. It also teaches them about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and positive mental health, about online and offline safety. At Hillocks Primary Academy we have responsibilities for safeguarding and a legal duty to promote pupil well-being (Education and Inspections Act 2006 Section 38). Sensitive issues will be handled in line with the safeguarding policy.

RHSE teachers will take all reasonable, practical steps to ensure that, where political or controversial issues are brought to pupils' attention, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Teachers will seek to establish a classroom climate in which all pupils are free from any fear of expressing reasonable points of view that contradict those held either by their class teachers or their peers.

Both formal and informal RSHE arising from pupils' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil(s) concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in their school if they are concerned.

## **8 Confidentiality and Disclosure**

Establishing a safe, open and positive learning environment based on trusting relationships between all members of the class, adults and children alike, is vital for teaching RSHE effectively. All staff at Hillocks Primary Academy should work to create a safe environment in which pupils do not feel embarrassed or anxious about questions.

Children are often keen to talk about themselves and their experiences. Teachers cannot make promises of absolute confidentiality in line with our Safeguarding policy. At Hillocks Primary Academy we have responsibilities for safeguarding and a legal duty to promote pupil well-being (Education and Inspections Act 2006 Section 38)

## **9 Health Professionals**

Hillocks Primary Academy uses the service of an allocated school nurse from the Healthy Families Team or Specialist Support from Family services who visits the academy periodically throughout the school year. Hillocks Primary Academy follows all other aspects set out in the Diverse

Academies policy. If a teacher or parent is concerned then a request for a referral can be made by contacting the schools SENDCO: Mrs Charlotte Adams at Hillocks Primary Academy.

## **10 Teenage Pregnancy**

The law says anyone under the age of 13 can never legally give consent. (Sexual Offences Act 2003; Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008; Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009; Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005).

Any sexual activity with a child under 13 should always result in a child protection referral. Where individual case of teenage pregnancy occur this will be an immediate referral by the designated safeguarding lead to the MASH team (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub) School will seek advice from social care and will follow all safeguarding steps to support.

We believe in educating children on developing an understanding of how to safeguard themselves and understand the physical and emotional changes that happen to their bodies as they become adults including reproduction. At Hillocks Primary Academy, Year 6 will learn about reproduction in humans and pregnancy. Parental permission will need to be obtained for this content to be delivered as some information will not be part of the compulsory national curriculum for science or relationships and health education

## **11 Family Life**

At Hillocks Primary Academy we ensure that all children understand that all families are special and unique and it's important for children to understand that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability. We encourage all children to discuss and share their own family background which includes heterosexual and same- sex relationships.

## **12 Religion and Faith**

At Hillocks Primary Academy we value the individual and spiritual beliefs of all children and their families. Our Relationships and Health Education Curriculum is linked with our SMSC and PSHE provision in school and teachers are sensitive to ensure that where individual beliefs are held that these are respected and shared.

## **13 Equal Opportunities, Inclusion and Disability**

The Equality Act 2010 covers the way the curriculum is delivered, as schools and other education providers must ensure that issues are taught in a way that does not subject pupils to

discrimination. Schools have a duty under the Equality Act to ensure that teaching is accessible to all children including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT). Inclusive RSHE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice – including homophobia – and promote understanding and respect. Hillocks Primary academy seeks to create an inclusive environment and curriculum.

## **14 Children and Young People in Public Care**

Children and young people in public care are particularly vulnerable to poor sexual and emotional health. They often miss out on RSHE at home due to individual circumstances. The Designated Looked after care lead and class teacher at Hillocks Primary Academy will ensure that each young person's entitlement is met in this regard and updates will be provided to social care services during annual Looked after care reviews.

## **15 Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBTQ+)**

Hillocks Primary Academy firmly believes in ensuring that our curriculum and lessons on family illustrate children and families that are reflective of modern Britain and within our local community. This is shared with pupils in lessons through our reading spine that seeks to challenge stereotypes and ensure that all children understand how all families are unique and to help support their own identity

## **16 Homophobic Bullying**

Hillocks Primary Academy has a zero-tolerance approach to all forms of bullying and a highly effective support system for victims. Full details of these systems and processes are available. Hillocks Primary Academy follows all aspects set out in the [Diverse Academies Anti-bullying Policy](#)

## **17 RSHE and Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disability**

At Hillocks Primary Academy we firmly believe that children with SEND have the same entitlement to sex education as their peers. Timing, methods and learning process will differ according to their needs. It is important to adapt materials accordingly to the correct age and stage for the child. RSHE must be accessible for all children, and this is particularly important when planning teaching for pupils with SEND as they are more vulnerable to risks.

High quality teaching that is adapted and personalised will be the starting point to ensure accessibility. Teachers in Upper Key stage 2 be mindful of the preparing for adulthood subjects to

those with SEND. Teachers should be aware that some pupils are more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND. RSHE can also be particularly important subjects for some pupils, for example, those with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs or learning disabilities. Such factors should be taken into consideration in designing and teaching these subjects and all adaptations need to be communicated to the SENDCO.

## **18 Staff Training**

Staff training on RSHE will be reviewed annually and staff are invited to complete the [DFE training materials](#).

In addition, staff will complete refresher training on Relationships and Sex Education: [Managing Difficult Conversations](#) provided by the National College)

Support for staff in accessing further tailored RSHE training is available from the academies PSHE Lead and our Strategic Personal Development Lead at Diverse Academies Trust.

## **19 Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

Hillocks Primary Academy will continue to monitor, evaluate and review by consulting parents on developing and reviewing this policy throughout the academic year. Opportunity for parents to do this can accessed through the [Hillocks Primary Academy website](#)

Hillocks Primary Academy follows all aspects set out in the [Diverse Academies Relationships and Sex Education Policy](#)

## **20 Dissemination of the policy and Review**

RSHE has clear links with other policies at Hillocks Primary Academy aimed at promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including the following:

[Behaviour Academy Appendix](#)

[Health and Safety Academy Appendix](#)

[Online Safety Academy Appendix](#)

[Safeguarding and Child Protection Academy Appendix](#)

[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Academy Appendix](#)

This policy will be reviewed annually by the PSHE Lead and Principal.