



West Kirby
Grammar School

Relationships and Sex Education policy

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Statutory:	Yes	
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1. Aims

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. Statutory requirements

As a secondary academy school we must provide RSE to all students as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

In teaching RSE, we are required by our funding agreements to have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

At West Kirby Grammar School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, students and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review – a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Governor and Staff consultation – School staff and the Governor Curriculum Committee given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties invited to attend a meeting about the policy

4. Student consultation – what exactly students want from their RSE
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared again with governors and ratified

4. Definition

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.

RSE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

5. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, students and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of students.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. This takes place during timetabled lessons in Years 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 and during Impact Days in Year 10. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE). The RSE is delivered using the Jigsaw PSHE scheme, supplemented by other resources.

In Year 9 and 12, students also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by Brook.

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

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendix 1.

These areas of learning are taught within the context of home 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. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The governing body

The governing body will approve the RSE policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

7.2 The headteacher

The 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 (see section 8).

7.3 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.

The following members of staff are responsible for the delivery of RSE at West Kirby Grammar School:

Mrs J Thelwell: Head of PSHE

Miss G Ellis: Assistant Headteacher - Personal Development

7.4 Students

Students are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

8. Parents' right to withdraw

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.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher.

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.

9. Training

Where appropriate, staff are trained on the delivery of RSE. The main resource used, Jigsaw, has extensive teacher notes to guide teachers.

Visitors from outside the school, such as youth workers or sexual health professionals, are invited to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

10. Monitoring arrangements

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

This policy will be reviewed by the Head of PSHE and the SLT lead for Personal Development annually and approved by the Governing Body.

Educating students on the subjects of SRE and PSHE plays a crucial role in safeguarding them. This policy works in conjunction with our Safeguarding Policy to ensure students are educated on the ways in which they can be kept safe and protect themselves.

Appendix 2: 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	