Holmer Green First School

and Pre-School

Relationships Education Policy 2024

Introduction

This policy outlines the aims, principles and strategies for the teaching and learning of relationships in our First School setting and this document should be read in conjunction with the school's PSHE policy. The content of this policy was produced by the PSHE Leader through consultation with teaching staff, pupils, parents and school governors. From January 2020 statutory Relationships Education and Health Education will be part of the taught curriculum within PSHE. This is an essential part of a child's education and contributes to their personal development.

Rationale and ethos

This policy sets out to ensure consistency in the teaching and learning within Relationships Education in Key Stage One. This is to ensure that our children are equipped with high quality and age-appropriate teaching. The aim of Relationships Education at Holmer Green First School and Pre-School is to equip our young children with the information, skills and values to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships, and to take responsibility for their health and well-being. We want to promote the core values of respect, love and care through good quality teaching of Relationships Education in our school. Relationships Education will also provide the opportunity for our children to reflect on their own attitudes and beliefs and those of their peers and others. Relationships Education is an integral element of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education and it is therefore essential and good practice that teaching and learning about relationships is planned and implemented within this broader framework rather than as a stand-alone subject.

Our children will be taught about the society in which they are growing up. This will include knowing about how to have respect for others and for difference, and will educate them about healthy relationships. Our children will receive teaching on LGBT content during their time at our school. Teaching children about the society that we live in and the different types of loving, healthy relationships that exist will be done in a way that is age appropriate for the children in our school.

Roles and Responsibilities

The PSHE leader is responsible for providing an overview of the subject across the school to inform staff planning and to offer advice in which the curriculum can be delivered in an effective and engaging way. They should have an up-to-date knowledge of the subject requirements and ensure that these are met across the school, as well as having an overview of assessment. They are responsible for ensuring that the PSHE and Relationships Education curriculum page remains up to date on the school website. The PSHE leader also must have sound knowledge of the resources which are available within school and will ensure that resources are replenished and updated as necessary.

Individual teachers are responsible for the day to day planning, delivery and assessment of lessons which are planned around the Relationships Education curriculum.

The governor for PSHE and RSE is responsible for ensuring there is a good professional dialogue with the subject leader throughout the school year.

Curriculum design

EYFS

In Development Matters it states that 'children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships. Positive relationships are defined as:'

- Warm and loving, and foster a sense of belonging
- Sensitive and responsive to the child's needs, feelings and interests
- Supportive of the child's own efforts and independence
- Consistent in setting clear boundaries
- Stimulating
- Built on key person relationships in early years settings

Staff will follow the requirements of the 'Development Matters' document. Personal, Social and Emotional development is one of the three Prime areas which underpin the areas of learning.

- Managing Feelings and Behaviour
- Making Relationships
- Self-Confidence and Self-Awareness

Key Stage One

Intent

Relationships Education will become statutory from September 2020. High quality Relationships Education will support our children to:

- Form and maintain positive relationships with other children and adults.

- Understand the importance of positive and healthy relationships on their wellbeing.
- Recognise what makes a good friendship and how to be a good friend in return.
- Strategies to manage the ups and downs of friendships and relationships with others.
- Show respect for others and recognise diversity within relationships, treating each other with kindness, consideration and understanding.
- Develop positive character traits and personal attributes such as self- respect, kindness, honesty, integrity and resilience.
- Children will be taught how to come together to tackle an issue, support other people, or improve their local area to help contribute to the wellbeing of others.
- Understand the principles of positive relationships also apply on line, how to keep safe and how to report concerns.
- Understand the importance of recognising and establishing their own personal boundaries and privacy.
- Understand and respect differences and combat all forms of bullying and discrimination.
- Recognise unhealthy relationships, inappropriate behaviour and bullying and to report concerns or abuse and are taught the appropriate vocabulary to do so (including signposting to trusted online support services such as Childline).
- Ask a trusted adult rather than go on line with regards to any concerns about relationship issues and avoid viewing any inappropriate material or entering into social media conversations that could cause them harm.

Implementation

Statutory Relationships Education is planned and taught through the Science, Computing and the PSHE curriculums. The overview for what should be taught within each half term is outlined within the PSHE programme of study which has been developed by the PSHE leader. These aspects of the Relationships Education are defined by the DfE and will be taught at an age appropriate level. It aims to teach our children what they need to know by the end of Year Two. Relationships Education gives our children the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships with other children and adults. It should enable them to know what a healthy relationship looks like, how to build and maintain happy, healthy relationships with others and recognise the importance of a range of relationships with friends, family, in school and in wider community in which they live. Relationships Education also teaches our children to recognise unhealthy behaviours, how to keep safe, identify potential dangers in their on and off line lives and how to report any concerns or abuse and where to access help when needed.

Distancing techniques are used to teach Relationships Education, which provides depersonalised examples which support children to explore what is being taught without sharing their own personal experiences in the lesson.

We provide an inclusive curriculum that promotes understanding and mutual respect for all. We reflect diversity within our curriculum to ensure that no pupil feels excluded and teach our children to respect difference, promote equality and challenge stigma.
Outcomes for Relationships Education are defined by the DfE and cover:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- On line relationships
- Keeping Safe- This is an aspect of the statutory Relationships Education curriculum which includes learning related to privacy and safeguarding. It is recommended children are taught the correct names of all body parts. We teach the scientific names of body parts in Year Two. Throughout Key Stage One our children will be taught how to report concerns of abuse, and will be taught the vocabulary to give them the confidence needed to do so.

(Being Safe – descriptor see DfE relationships outcomes).

Impact

High quality Relationships Education will enable our children to:

- Enjoy healthy and positive relationships with others
- Understand how their behaviour affects others and vice versa
- Value and understand the importance of maintaining good relationships
- Make positive choices about how they cultivate and nurture friendships and relationships
- Be aware of and respect different types of relationships in accordance with the Equalities Act.
- Become actively engaged young citizens who make positive contributions to their families, the school and the communities to which they belong
- Recognise unhealthy relationships and have strategies to challenge negative behaviours
- Know what to do if there are problems within relationships both on and off line, how to keep safe and where to go to seek help

Confidentiality and Safeguarding

Any personal disclosures made by pupils will be followed up in accordance with the school's Child Protection Policy. Staff will report any safeguarding concerns to the DSL and share concerns with parents/carers according to the school's safeguarding procedures.

Parent Partnership

The DfE states that as of September 2020 parents will not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education. The contents of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught. We highly recommend all pupils receive teaching of the full PSHE curriculum.

Assessment

Our children's existing knowledge needs to be the starting point of all Relationships Education work. The elements of Relationships Education that form part of the Science curriculum are assessed in accordance with the requirements of the National Curriculum. The learning from other elements of Relationships Education is assessed as part of the PSHE provision using our online assessment platform.

Monitoring

Relationships Education is regularly evaluated by the PSHE subject leader. The views of our children, parents, governors and teachers are used to make changes and improvements on an ongoing basis. The PSHE leader will attend courses/training events to ensure their subject knowledge is up to date. Termly monitoring activities involving staff and children will enable the subject leader to monitor what is being taught and delivered across the school. Any changes or updates to the Relationships Education curriculum will be discussed with staff during staff meetings.

Appendix 1 DfE descriptors

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/relationships-education-primary

Appendix 2 – DFE guide for parents

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812593/RSE_primary_schools_guide_for_parents.pdf

Appendix 3- Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1014224/Sexual_violence_and_sexual_harassment_between_children_in_schools_and_colleges.pdf