



Roding Valley
HIGH SCHOOL

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

May 2019

Reviewed: April 2019

Approved: June 2019



Rationale

RSE becomes statutory in September 2020.

Under the Education Act 2002 and Academies Act 2010 all schools must provide a balanced and broadly based curriculum which:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical developments of students at the school and society.
- Prepares students at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

This policy is written in accordance with:

- The DFE Sex and Relationship Education Guidance issued in March 2019 (statutory 2020)
- The Equality Act (2010)
- The Education Acts of 1996 and 2002
- The Academies Act 2010.

The DFE Sex and Relationship Education Guidance document states:

- The objective of sex and relationship education is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development.

SRE is “lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.”

Under the 1993 Education Act, parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the school’s SRE programme except those in the statutory National Curriculum. This remains in the new framework.

Aims

The DFE suggest that SRE is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider: personal relationships in the widest sense, morals, the importance of marriage and family life. Roding Valley School wholeheartedly supports the DFE philosophy and believes it is best taught as part of the SMSC programmes.

We believe in a whole school approach, that contributions can be made by different curricular areas and that teaching can be reinforced by the general ethos of the school in creating a caring and supportive environment for all students.

SRE at Roding Valley contributes to promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students and stresses the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, marriage, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

In our teaching we aim to create an atmosphere where questions about personal relationships and sex can be asked and answered without embarrassment.



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Principles

SRE should:

- Promote a positive self-image and so respect for self and others
- Present sexual activity as a natural part of a fulfilling human relationship
- Encourage young people to view sexual activity in the context of a responsible, loving relationship
- Develop self-esteem, self-confidence and an understanding of students' own sexuality
- Explore issues around sexuality and personal relationships
- Place sexual activity in a moral context
- Provide knowledge and understanding of:
 - The functions and development of the human body
 - Various methods of contraception
 - Sexually transmitted diseases
 - Pregnancy and abortion
 - Violent and abusive sexual behaviour
- Help young people to make positive health choices
- Help students to be able to be assertive and able to negotiate
- Make students aware of the variety of lifestyles experienced by individuals and groups

Other Aspects

- Surrogacy
- Childlessness
- Sterilisation
- Legal and social issues
- Supportive caring agencies
- Artificial Insemination

Safeguard for Teachers and Pupils

- Sex education will be managed and delivered by identified subject and tutor teams.
- Appropriate training and resources will support the delivery of the sex education programme.
- Teachers have the role of providing accurate information and facilitating discussion and reflection. As far as possible, sex education will be delivered by teachers known well by the pupils.
- Under no circumstances should a teacher engage in offering specific advice on contraception or other aspects of sexual behaviour with individuals below the age of sixteen, neither should they seek to promote a particular viewpoint or behaviour.



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- Students seeking individual contraceptive advice will be directed to the School Nurse or other relevant health care professional.
- Parents will be notified prior to the delivery of the programme,

Agencies

Health professionals and visitors from known agencies will be involved in the programmes as appropriate.

The Safeguarding lead will be consulted as part of the organisation of visitors to the school.

Right to Withdraw

Parents may exercise their right to withdraw children from SRE, other than those aspects prescribed in the National Curriculum programmes of study, by writing to the Headteacher.

Governors will receive and take account of representations or advice from religious groups and ethnic minority communities where appropriate.

References:

- **Sex and Relationships Education Guidance** (DFES 0116/2000)
- **Education Act 1996** Section 352



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