



South Marston C of E Primary School

Relationships Sex Education Policy

Reviewed	September 26	Next Review	September 2027
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Christian Vision and Ethos

At South Marston Church of England Primary School, we believe every child is uniquely created, loved and valued by God. Our aim is to enable all pupils to flourish academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually within a safe and nurturing Christian environment.

Our RSHE curriculum is rooted in the belief that all people are made in the image of God and are therefore worthy of dignity, respect and compassion. Guided by “*So God created humankind in his image*” (Genesis 1:27), we seek to equip pupils with the knowledge and values needed to live healthy and fulfilling lives.

RSHE is taught within a clear Christian moral framework that promotes kindness, respect, honesty, responsibility and integrity. Pupils are encouraged to build positive relationships and to value both themselves and others.

Statutory Framework

This policy reflects the requirements of the Department for Education’s *Relationships, Sex and Health Education Statutory Guidance (July 2025)*, the Children and Social Work Act 2017, the Education Act 2002, the Equality Act 2010, the SEND Code of Practice and *Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE 2025)*. It is also informed by Church of England guidance, including *Valuing All God’s Children*.

From September 2026, Relationships Education and Health Education are compulsory in all primary schools. Biological aspects of human reproduction are taught through the National Curriculum for Science.

Curriculum Structure and Delivery

RSHE is delivered through the Jigsaw PSHE 3–11 programme (updated September 2026), providing a progressive and age-appropriate curriculum from Reception to Year 6. Lessons are taught weekly by class teachers and follow a spiral structure across six units: Being Me in My World, Celebrating Difference, Dreams and Goals, Healthy Me, Relationships and Changing Me.

The Changing Me unit supports pupils in understanding growth and transition, including puberty in Upper Key Stage 2. Statutory content on human reproduction is taught through Year 6 Science.

Teaching is carefully planned to ensure a safe environment for discussion. External visitors may occasionally support learning, but responsibility for delivery remains with the school.

Relationships Education – compulsory (unable to withdraw)

Relationships Education is a statutory part of the curriculum and underpins our approach to RSHE. Pupils learn about families, friendships and respectful relationships, including the importance of trust, boundaries and kindness.

Teaching reflects the diversity of modern Britain. Pupils learn that families can take different forms, including single-parent, blended, adoptive, foster and same-sex parent families, all of which are treated with equal respect.

Pupils are also taught about online relationships, bullying (including online bullying) and how to seek help if they feel unsafe. This learning supports the school's safeguarding responsibilities and aligns with KCSIE (Keeping Children Safe In Education) expectations.

Health Education - compulsory (unable to withdraw)

Health Education supports pupils in understanding how to maintain both physical and mental wellbeing. Pupils learn about healthy lifestyles, including diet, exercise, sleep and hygiene, alongside developing emotional awareness and resilience.

In line with safeguarding guidance, pupils are taught about risks associated with drugs, alcohol, tobacco and nicotine, including vaping. Online safety is a key focus, including digital footprints, privacy, social media use, and risks such as online grooming and exposure to harmful or misleading content, including AI-generated material.

Basic first aid, vaccinations and strategies for maintaining wellbeing are also included.

Sex Education – not compulsory

The school teaches age-appropriate Sex Education as part of the RSHE curriculum, including content on human reproduction, which is delivered in line with the National Curriculum for Science and the Jigsaw programme. This is taught sensitively and within a clear Christian and safeguarding framework, ensuring pupils are prepared for the changes associated with growing up.

We recognise that some aspects of this learning may go beyond the statutory science curriculum. Parents and carers have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from specific non-statutory elements of Sex Education. Any such request should be discussed with the Headteacher, who will ensure that parents are fully informed about the content and context of the lessons. Where a withdrawal is agreed, it will apply only to the identified elements of the lesson, and appropriate alternative provision will be made.

Safeguarding and Handling Questions

RSHE plays an important role in safeguarding. Pupils are taught that their bodies belong to them, how to recognise safe and unsafe touch, and how to seek help from trusted adults. Teaching includes recognised approaches such as the NSPCC PANTS guidance.

Staff respond to pupils' questions in an honest and age-appropriate way while maintaining professional boundaries. Any safeguarding concerns or disclosures are managed in line with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and KCSIE.

Inclusion and SEND

RSHE is inclusive and accessible to all pupils. Teaching is adapted to meet individual needs, including those with SEND, and sensitive content is delivered with care. The curriculum reflects equality, diversity and respect, ensuring all pupils feel valued.

Parental Engagement

We work in partnership with parents and carers and keep them informed about RSHE content. Materials are available to view, and opportunities are provided for discussion with staff.

Parents cannot withdraw their child from statutory Relationships or Health Education. If non-statutory Sex Education were introduced, parents would have the right to request withdrawal following discussion with the school.

Monitoring and Governance

The PSHE/RSHE Subject Leader, alongside the Senior Leadership Team, monitors the quality and impact of RSHE through planning reviews, pupil voice and ongoing evaluation. The Local Governing Body ensures that the policy remains compliant and reflects the school's Christian ethos.

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure it remains up to date with statutory guidance and safeguarding requirements.