



Relationships Education

Relationships and Health Education is compulsory from September 2020. New regulations were passed in April 2019

1.9 It is unlawful for a school to discriminate against a pupil or prospective pupil by treating them less favorably because of their: sex, race, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity (DfE 2014, p8)

1.7 If a school treats bullying [against any of the groups outlined previously] less seriously ... then it may be guilty of unlawful discrimination (DfE 2014, p8)

3.27 Teaching should be based on facts and should enable pupils to develop an understanding of how the law applies to different relationships. Teachers must have regard to statutory guidance on sex and relationship education (now RSHE), and to meet duties under equality and human rights law (DfE. 2014)

Statutory Relationships Education

The focus in primary schools should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with family members, other children and adults.

Lessons will be evidence based, age and culturally appropriate, based in the law and sensitive to the needs of pupils.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education

What Pupils will learn?

Relationships Education will put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships including with family, friends and online. Children will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them.

In an age appropriate way, we will cover how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect.

- Accept and respect diversity among others and foster a positive approach to differences.
- Characteristics of healthy family life and that other people's families sometimes look different from theirs. (Families can include for example, single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents and carers amongst other structures).
- What makes a healthy relationship, and how to build strong, respectful relationships with others in their life, e.g. family, friends, colleagues

- Recognise if relationships are making them feel unhappy and unsafe, and how to seek help if needed.
- Rules and principles for keeping safe online.

Why teach it?

In such an ever-changing world where young people are exposed to so much online, they need to be taught **how to be safe and healthy**, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives **in a positive way**.

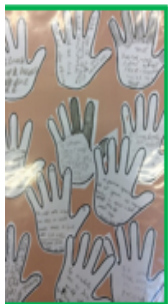
Teaching 'Relationships' across the school



Reception pupils have been considering people who are special to them. 'Circletime' has allowed them to share their experiences...

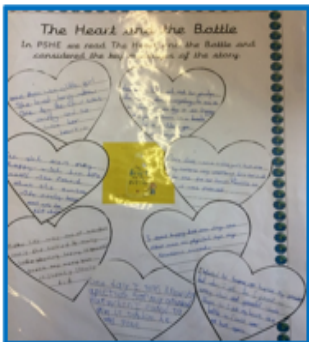
R9. To identify their special people (family, friends, and carers), what makes them special and how special people should care for one another

In Y1/2 children have considered the importance of 'family'. They have recognised that families are not all the same. They have also discussed what we need in order to feel safe and cared for...



R8. To judge what kind of physical contact is acceptable or unacceptable and how to respond

In Y3/4 children have considered the importance of 'personal space', considering the difference between acceptable and unacceptable physical contact.



R2/R4. To recognise what constitutes a positive, healthy relationship and develop the skills to form and maintain positive and healthy relationships. To recognise different types of relationship, including those between acquaintances, friends, relatives and families

In Y5/6, listening to the story 'The Heart and the Bottle' allowed pupils to discuss important relationships.

Will my child be taught about LGBT relationships?

- Pupils should be taught about the society in which they grow up. These subjects are designed to foster respect for others and for difference, and educate pupils about healthy relationships.
- Pupils should receive teaching on LGBT content during their school years. Teaching children about the society we live in and the different types of loving healthy relationships that exist can be done in a way that respects everyone.
- We will cover LGBT content when teaching about different types of families.