

RSE Report for Governors 2020: Parent and Staff Views

Relationships Education:

Families and people who care for me

Pupils should know:

- that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care
- that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up
- that marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong
- how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed

"The earlier that children learn that differences are OK the better."

"the important aspect is that everyone should feel safe and loved in their family"

"Very important to teach about difference and diversity"

"Marriage – that this is not the only way to show life long commitment to another and sometimes that commitment doesn't work but not the fault of the child"

"The above is good, but I do not believe at Primary School age it is appropriate to go into the specifics of what makes families different"

"With families changing it is also important that marriage is discussed as one option – but there are others"

"Vital for children to understand different relationships are as valid as the perceived husband/wife/2 children family."

"I feel it is very important that children are aware of LGBT in an appropriate manner, as well as aspects of different views of marriage/relationships when it comes to different cultures and religions."

Do you think Sex Education should be taught to Primary age children? Yes/No

24/26 answered Yes

"I think it is important to remove the stigma about sex and relationships and show children that it is OK to talk about these things and it is normal to be curious and have questions."

"Due to social media children are aware of so much more than we think and are very switched on. I think some guidance from school is needed."

"We would be naïve to think this wasn't important. Why wait until it is too late?"

"Early education of RSE is vital for promoting positive relationships, improving self-esteem and body confidence."

"It is important that children are given age-appropriate information so that they can see it is OK to talk about this topic and also to bust any myths learnt from peers!"

Several parents commented that it should be delivered in an age-appropriate way.

"We believe this is appropriate for KS2".

"At 10 years and above"

1/26 answered No:

"They are primary age children and do not think sex education to be relevant or appropriate."

1/26 did not answer but commented

"It needs to be age appropriate. The importance of privacy and keeping safe should be communicated at a young age...But the details of sex itself isn't appropriate to be shared with primary age children."

Below is listed some of the content we would like to include in our Relationships and Sex curriculum:

- Correctly name the external parts of the human body
- Respecting boundaries and keeping safe
- How our bodies change as we grow
- The importance of permission seeking in relationships with friends, peers and adults
- Puberty
- Sex Education

“I would be interested to know what is taught at what stage, and how we can support the learning at home.”

“Children should be educated about puberty and sex education to ensure they feel comfortable with growing up and consent.”

“Agree with the above suggested topics though we feel the specific sex education content is suitable to the older children (yr 5 and 6 only).”

“It is important children learn what changes they will go through before it happens. The more these topics are discussed the less embarrassed and giggly children will be. Sex education should be reserved for year 6 only.”

Is there anything that you feel should definitely be covered as part of our Relationships and Sex Education curriculum?

Most parents reinforced the importance of covering the content already outlined.

The overwhelming view throughout the questionnaire was that parents want to be kept well informed about what their children will be taught and when each aspect will be covered to ensure they can support their children at home.

Staff Views: Staff Meeting 27.1.20

Staff were shown the statutory guidance for Relationships Education section by section. Many sections were felt to be very similar to our current PSHE provision.

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Staff felt it was good the guidance does not specify that marriage must be between a man and a woman. We all felt that it is very important to be sensitive to the individual children in our class when teaching about family and marriage.

What are our views on the content of the Sex Education guidance?

We feel it is vital that this is taught in primary school, particularly puberty.

Should there be any particular emphasis on any area for our specific cohort?

We feel that the Christian views on sex/marriage should be shared with the children but should not drive the curriculum.

Should we teach sex as part of a marriage/relationship?

Marriage does not necessarily need to be mentioned in terms of sex education. Sex should happen within a loving relationship but not necessarily a marriage. This approach supports the diverse family backgrounds of the children in our school.

At what age do we think content should be taught?

Appropriate sharing/boundaries/privacy – year 1 onwards

Puberty – Year 4 (more general), Year 5 (in detail)

Periods – Year 5 both boys and girls and then more detail with girls only

Intercourse – end of Year 6