



Personal, Social, Health Education and Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary
School Approved by the Local
Governing Body on: 10th November
2025

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At Sutton Courtenay, we work to provide our children with strong foundations on which to build their lives through our core values – ready, respectful, responsible - and the love of each other:

“Everyone who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on a rock” (Matthew 7:24)

1. Context

All schools must provide a curriculum that is broadly based, balanced and meets the needs of all pupils. Under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010, a PSHE curriculum:

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

This policy meets the requirements that schools publish a Relationships and Sex Education policy and does this within the wider context of Personal, Social and Health Education.

2. PSHE

At Sutton Courtenay CofE E Primary School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education as a whole-school approach to underpin children’s development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity.

The Jigsaw Programme offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children’s learning in this vital curriculum area.

The overview of the programme is linked into this document.

3. Statutory Relationships and Health Education

“The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education...They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools.”

DfE Guidance p.8

Here at Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School we value PSHE as one way to support children’s development as human beings, to enable them to understand and respect who they are, to empower them with a voice and to equip them for life and learning.

We include the statutory Relationships and Health Education within our whole-school PSHE Programme.

To ensure progression and a spiral curriculum, we use Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, as our chosen teaching and learning programme and tailor it to children’s needs. The mapping document: Jigsaw 3-11 and statutory Relationships and Health Education, [jigsaw-3-11-and-rshe-overview-](#)

[map.pdf](#) shows exactly how Jigsaw and therefore our school, meets the statutory Relationships and Health Education requirements.

Our PSHE policy is informed by, and consistent with, existing DfE guidance:

- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) (statutory guidance) [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Respectful School Communities: Self Review and Signposting Tool](#) [Respectful School Communities Self-Review and Signposting Tool \(educateagainsthate.com\)](#)
- [Behaviour and Discipline in Schools](#) (advice for schools, including advice for appropriate behaviour between pupils) [Behaviour in schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Equality Act 2010 and schools](#) [Equality Act 2010: advice for schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years](#) (statutory guidance) [SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools](#) (advice for schools) [Mental health and behaviour in schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Social, emotional and mental wellbeing in primary and secondary education.](#) (NICE guidance) [Overview | Social, emotional and mental wellbeing in primary and secondary education | Guidance | NICE](#)
- [Promoting and supporting mental health and wellbeing in schools and colleges](#) (guidance for schools and colleges) [Promoting and supporting mental health and wellbeing in schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Preventing and Tackling Bullying](#) (advice for schools, including advice on [cyberbullying](#)) [Preventing bullying - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance](#) (provides advice on avoiding discrimination in a variety of educational contexts) [Advice and guidance | Equality and Human Rights Commission \(equalityhumanrights.com\)](#)
- [Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools](#) (guidance for maintained schools on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) [Promoting fundamental British values through SMSC - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Our PSHE including RSE curriculum also aligns](#) with the Church of England's A Charter for Faith Sensitive and Inclusive Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (RSHE). It draws on the advice given in the Church of England document Valuing All God's Children: Guidance for Church of England schools on challenging homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying

4. What do we teach when and who teaches it?

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase including statutory Relationships and Health Education. The table below gives the learning theme of each of the six Puzzles (units), and these are taught across the school; the learning deepens and broadens every year.

Term	Puzzle (Unit)	Content
Autumn 1:	Being Me in My World	Includes understanding my own identity and how I fit well in the class, school and global community. Jigsaw Charter established.
Autumn 2:	Celebrating Difference	Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and understanding

Spring 1:	Dreams and Goals	Includes goal setting, aspirations, who do I want to become and what would I like to do for work and to contribute to society
Spring 2:	Healthy Me	Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices, sleep, nutrition, rest and exercise
Summer 1:	Relationships	Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills, bereavement and loss
Summer 2:	Changing Me	Includes Relationships and Sex Education in the context of coping positively with change

At Sutton Courtenay CofE E Primary School we allocate 30 minutes (time) to PSHE each week in order to teach the PSHE knowledge and skills in a developmental and age-appropriate way.

These explicit lessons are reinforced and enhanced in many ways, including assemblies and collective worship, our praise and reward systems, through relationships including those from child-to-child, adult-to-child and adult-to-adult across the school. We aim to 'live' what is learnt and apply it to everyday situations in the school community.

Class teachers deliver the weekly lessons to their own classes.

4a. Relationships Education

Relationships Education in primary schools will cover 'Families and people who care for me', 'Caring friendships', 'Respectful relationships', 'Online relationships', and 'Being safe'.

It is important to explain that whilst the Relationships Puzzle (unit) in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Relationships Education, some of the outcomes are also taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. the Celebrating Difference Puzzle helps children appreciate that there are many types of family composition and that each is important to the children involved. This holistic approach ensures the learning is reinforced through the year and across the curriculum.

Parents should also be aware that the Church of England states in "Valuing All God's Children", 2019, that Relationships and Sex education should: *"Make it clear that relationships and sex education is designed to prepare all pupils for the future, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. RSE must promote gender equality and LGBT equality and it must challenge discrimination. RSE must take the needs and experiences of LGBT people into account, and it should seek to develop understanding that there are a variety of relationships and family patterns in the modern world."* (Page 34)

4b. Health Education

Health Education in primary schools will cover 'Mental wellbeing', 'Internet safety and harms', 'Physical health and fitness', 'Healthy eating', 'Drugs, alcohol and tobacco', 'Health and prevention', 'Basic First Aid', 'Changing adolescent body'.

It is important to explain that whilst the Healthy Me Puzzle (unit) in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Health Education, some of the outcomes are taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. emotional and

mental health is nurtured every lesson through the Calm me time, social skills are grown every lesson through the Connect us activity and respect is enhanced through the use of the Jigsaw Charter.

Also, teaching children about puberty is now a statutory requirement which sits within the Health Education part of the DfE guidance within the 'Changing adolescent body' strand, and in Jigsaw this is taught as part of the Changing Me Puzzle (unit).

4c. Sex Education

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p.23) recommends that all primary schools 'have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils.

However, 'Sex Education is not compulsory in primary schools. (p. 23) and, as such,' parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory Relationships and Sex Education" (DfE Guidance p.17)

At Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School, puberty is taught as a statutory requirement of **Health Education** (which is statutory, and therefore there is no right to request withdrawal from these lessons) and covered by our Jigsaw PSHE Programme in the 'Changing Me' Puzzle (unit).

We conclude that **Sex Education** refers to human reproduction, and therefore parents are able to request their child be withdrawn from the PSHE lessons that explicitly teach this - that is, the Jigsaw Changing Me Puzzle (unit) lessons:

Year 4, Lesson 2 (Having a baby))

Year 5, Lesson 4 (Conception)

Year 6, Lesson 3 (Conception, birth)

Class teachers, under the guidance of the Senior Leadership Team, will give reasonable notice to parents about when these lessons are planned to be taught. Any parent can request the withdrawal of their child from these lessons by putting this in writing to the headteacher. The implications of this withdrawal will be made clear to parents, and a plan for alternative learning for the child discussed.

Equality

This policy will inform the school's Equalities Plan.

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p. 15) states, "Schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect. Schools must ensure they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010 under which sexual orientation and gender reassignment are amongst the protected characteristics...

At the point at which schools consider it appropriate to teach their pupils about LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), they should ensure this content is fully integrated into their programmes of study for this area of the curriculum rather than delivered as a stand-alone unit or lesson. Schools are free to determine how they do this, and we expect all pupils to have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum".

This can also have an impact on any anti-bullying policies in regard to these characteristics being the reason for the issue. The Church of England document "Valuing all God's Children", 2019, states:

“Schools should ensure that they have clear anti-bullying policies on preventing and tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic behaviour and language and that these policies are known and understood by all members of the school community. School leaders should present a clear message that HBT bullying will not be tolerated and that there can be no justification for this negative behaviour based on the Christian faith or the Bible. Schools should ensure that pupils understand how to report incidents. Pupils should be confident that if they report bullying it will be taken seriously.”

It also asserts:

“Central to Christian theology is the truth that every single one of us is made in the image of God. Every one of us is loved unconditionally by God. We must avoid, at all costs, diminishing the dignity of any individual to a stereotype or a problem. Church of England schools offer a community where everyone is a person known and loved by God, supported to know their intrinsic value” (page 1)

“Opportunities to discuss issues to do with self-esteem, identity and bullying, including HBT (homophobic, biphobic and transphobic) bullying, should be included in physical, social, health and economic education or citizenship programmes. The curriculum should offer opportunities for pupils to learn to value themselves and their bodies. Relationships and sex education should take LGBT people into account.” (Page 6)

At Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School we promote respect for all and value every individual child.

We also respect the right of our children, their families and our staff, to hold beliefs, religious or otherwise, and understand that sometimes these may be in tension with our approach to some aspects of Relationships, Health and Sex Education.

For further explanation as to how we approach LGBT relationships in the PSHE (RSHE) Programme please see:

‘Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ relationships?’

Jigsaw PSHE documents needed to explain this policy:

- Jigsaw 3-11 and statutory Relationships and Health Education (mapping document) [jigsaw-3-11-and-rshe-overview-map.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)
- Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ relationships?? [rshe-aguide-for-parents-and-carers-leaflet-2020.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)
- How does Jigsaw PSHE support the Church of England Principles and Charter in relation to RSHE? [Church of England publishes Charter for Relationships, Sex and Health Education | The Church of England](#)