

COGNITA



North Bridge House
Senior Canonbury
Relationships and Sex Education
(SRE) Policy

September 2021

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1 Introduction and aims

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education supports our school ethos and fulfils our school aims, which are defined as:

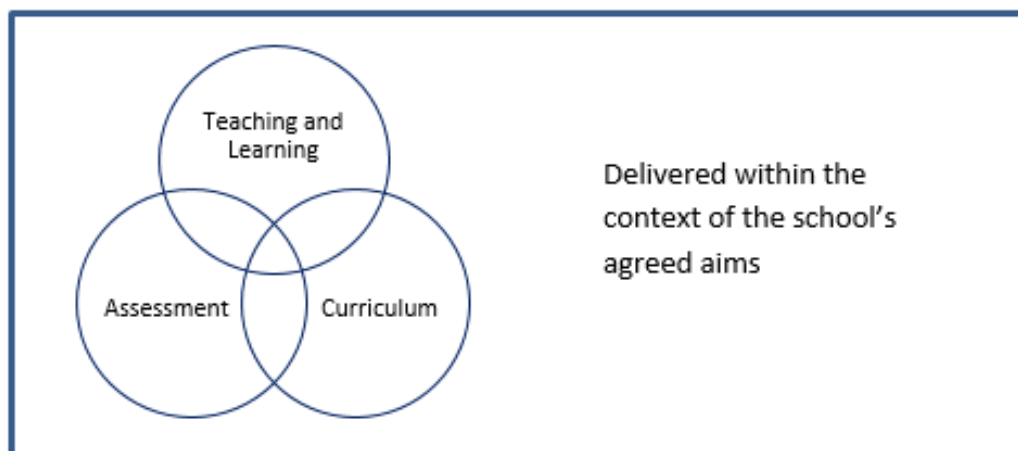
- To celebrate each child as an individual
- To have a happy school with a friendly, family atmosphere
- To provide a secure and nurturing environment where children learn tolerance, consideration and respect for others
- To help every child fulfill their potential through dedicated and inspirational teaching
- To educate the whole child by offering a wide variety of academic, sporting and extra-curricular activities.

1.1 This policy applies to all students.

1.2 This policy forms part of the curriculum.

1.3 We see the curriculum as, 'The total learning experience for our students, which includes not only the taught lessons but also the routines, behaviours, events, activities and other opportunities that our students experience on a daily, weekly and yearly basis in order to ensure that all of them make the best progress possible and attain high standards'.

1.4 A well-structured and coherent curriculum is a fundamental element of the tripartite education that underpins all successful schools and includes Teaching, Learning and Assessment (see model below) and is underpinned by Wellbeing.



The aims of RSE at our school are to:

- 1.5 Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place.
- 1.6 Prepare students for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene.
- 1.7 Help students develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy.

- 1.8 Create a positive culture around sexuality and relationships.
- 1.9 Teach students the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.
- 1.10 Help students understand that healthy relationships are an important part of wellbeing.

2 Statutory requirements

- 2.1 Our policy follows the statutory guidance given by the government (DfE) and meets the requirements of the Independent School Standards/BSO Standards/Estyn Standards. Aspects of RSE are infused within the day to day operation of our school; incorporated through the curriculum, both in content included in subject schemes of work and through other planned learning opportunities in the school. They are captured in our written aims and expressed in the ethos and behaviours of everyone.
- 2.2 As a Secondary school, we must ensure that every registered pupil who is provided with secondary education at the school is provided with relationships and sex education, except in so far as the pupil is excused as mentioned in sub-paragraph 9, in accordance with section 34 of Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the Independent School Standards, and with regard to guidance outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

At North Bridge House Senior, Hampstead, we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3 Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, students and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

- Review – The PSHE Lead reviewed all relevant information, including but not limited to, relevant national and local guidance.
- The policy was drafted in accordance with statutory guidance and aligned with the Independent School Regulations/BSO Standards. The school curriculum plans were amended accordingly.

4 Definition

- 4.1 RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of students, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.
- 4.2 RSE involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values.
- 4.3 RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity, sexual orientation, or a specific sexual identity.

5 Curriculum

- 5.1 Our curriculum is set out in Appendix 1, but we may need to adapt this as and when necessary.

- 5.2 For more information about our curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2 and our Curriculum Policy

6 Delivery of RSE

- 6.1 Our RSE is taught as part of our PSHEE curriculum. The PSHEE course is delivered to all students through discrete PSHEE lessons taught by our teachers. There is one lesson of taught PSHEE a week in every year group. Elements of the programme may be supported through the bringing in of additional expertise, such as outside speakers, trained health professionals, or the use of teachers with a particular interest or knowledge in a specific area. In addition to these discrete sessions, PSHEE is also embedded within the curriculum (e.g. social issues through the teaching of English Literature; Health through Biology and PE; Citizenship through History & RE).
- 6.2 For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2 and our Curriculum Policy.
- 6.3 RSE focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, including:
- Families
 - Respectful relationships, including friendships
 - Online and media
 - Being safe
 - Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health
- 6.4 For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices 1 and 2 and our Curriculum Policy.
- 6.5 These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life, taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBTQ+ parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst other structures), along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

7 Roles and responsibilities

Staff & Governance

7.1 PSHE Lead Teacher

The person with responsibility for the overview and yearly evaluation of this policy is **Susana Bailey**. However, all staff are responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented and acted on.

When evaluating the use and impact of this policy, our school leaders will evaluate the extent to which there is evidence of a curriculum which:

- Fulfils the aims of the school;
- Embeds aspiration, attributes and the expectation to achieve high standards and high rates of progress; and
- Provides engagement and excitement for learning.

7.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw students from [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE (see section 8).

7.3 The Chair of Governors

The Chair of Governors (Director of Education) will hold the Headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy.

The Chair of Governors will ensure that:

- all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes;
- the subjects are well led, effectively managed and well planned;
- the quality of provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation;
- teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND;
- clear information is provided for parents on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn; and,
- the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures that the school can fulfil its legal obligations.

7.4 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way;
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE;
- Monitoring progress;
- Responding to the needs of individual students; and
- Responding appropriately to students whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE.

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher.

Staff responsible for teaching RSE:

Year 7 – IST/SBA
Year 8 – SDI/IST
Year 9 – SDI/APA/SBA
Year 10 – JNA/JMU
Year 11 – LHA/AMA
Year 12 – AMA
Year 13 – YDI

8 Students

Students are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

8.1 Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Our curriculum is inclusive and our RSE and Health Education is accessible for all students. For those pupils with special educational needs or specific learning difficulties, the school has a well-established Learning Support department, led by **Mrs Charmalyn September**. Further details of this provision can be found in our Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy.

High quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised will be the starting point to ensure accessibility.

North Bridge House Senior Canonbury is aware that some pupils are more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND. Relationships Education and RSE can also be particularly important subjects for some pupils; for example those with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs or learning disabilities. Such factors will be taken into consideration in designing and teaching these subjects.

9 Parents' right to withdraw

9.1 If parents require more information on RSE for secondary aged children, this is a useful information source of information for them:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812594/RSE_secondary_schools_guide_for_parents.pdf

9.2 Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the [non-statutory/non-science] components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the Headteacher.

A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The Headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

Alternative work will be given to students who are withdrawn from sex education.

10 Training

10.1 Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development programme.

10.2 The Headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

11 Monitoring arrangements

11.1 The delivery of RSE is monitored by **Susana Bailey** through: Departmental meetings, work scrutiny, lesson observations, learning walks and pupil voice.

11.2 Students' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers through informal assessment in its inaugural year.

Appendix 1: Curriculum Map

Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum Map

The PSHEE Curriculum has three core themes:

1. **Health & Wellbeing** 
2. **Relationships** 
3. **Living in the Wider World** 

The PSHEE Curriculum is comprised of **Health**, **Relationships and Sex Education**, and **Living in the wider world**.

At North Bridge House Senior School, Canonbury PSHE is taught to all students through a weekly 50-minute lesson.

The table below summaries which components of the PSHEE curriculum are delivered in which year at North Bridge House School. The pages hereafter set out the curriculum map specifying the topics taught for all pupils at North Bridge House Senior School Hampstead.

North Bridge House Senior School Canonbury, Key Stage Three PSHE Curriculum Map 2020-21

	Spring 1 Health & Wellbeing	Spring 2 Health & Wellbeing	Summer 1 Relationships	Summer 2 Living in the Wider World
Year 7	<p>Healthy eating and drinking</p> <p>food labels, exercise and keeping active, energy drinks, cigarettes and passive smoking</p>	<p>Puberty and mental health</p> <p>Puberty, periods, FGM, managing mental health, anger.</p>	<p>Building relationships</p> <p>Relationships with friends and family. Positive relationships on and offline. Cyberbullying.</p>	<p>Building resilience and self esteem. Being an aspirational student.</p>
Year 8	<p>Personal Development and target setting.</p> <p>Managing behavior and skills to reach goals. Personal safety, teenage pregnancy, avoiding stereotypes and discrimination</p>	<p>Emotional literacy</p> <p>Mindfulness, self awareness of behavior towards others.</p>	<p>Sexual health</p> <p>Contraception, consent, pornography, avoiding STIs, sexting</p>	<p>Religious prejudice</p> <p>Where extremist comes from, Islamaphobia, stereotypes, discrimination and prejudice.</p>
Year 9	<p>Drugs and Alcohol</p> <p>The causes and consequences of drug and alcohol addiction.</p>	<p>Mental and physical health</p> <p>Mental health and anxiety. Blood donation and vaccinations.</p>	<p>Diversity</p> <p>The LGBT+ community, immigration to Britain and diversity.</p> <p>Body image, the media, peer pressure.</p>	<p>Employability</p> <p>Employability skills</p> <p>Employability and online presence. Skills to develop for the work environment,</p>

North Bridge House Senior School, Key Stage Four and Five PSHE Curriculum Map 2020-21.

	Spring 1 Health & Wellbeing	Spring 2 Health & Wellbeing	Summer 1 Relationships	Summer 2 Living in the Wider World
Year 10	Suicide, grief and bereavement.	Internet safety. Social media and self esteem.	Same sex relationships. Gender and trans identity. Sexism and gender prejudice.	Careers and CVS
Year 11	Study skills, perseverance and procrastination.	Body positivity and diverse identities.	Personal safety in the wider world, fertility and reproductive issues.	
Year 12	Drugs – Classes A, B, C.	Free speech, honour based violence, feminism.	Employability, researching different jobs and writing personal statements.	Employability, researching different jobs and writing personal statements.
Year 13	Sex and the media. Online subcultures and extremism	Drugs, festivals and parties. Sexual health.	Finance: renting vs buying. Payday loans, pensions and retirement.	

In addition to the PSHE curriculum, staff and pupils celebrate and reflect upon several significant events throughout the year, this is done through assemblies, tutor time discussion and may be referenced in academic lessons. Previous examples have included Anti-Bullying week, Global Aids Day, Black History Month and Holocaust Memorial Day.

The NBHC Wellbeing Council also meet regularly.

Appendix 2: By the end of secondary school, students should know:

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That there are different types of committed, stable relationships • How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children • What marriage is, including their legal status e.g. that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony • Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into • The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships • The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting • How to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend, intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others' relationships); and, how to seek help or advice, including reporting concerns about others, if needed
Respectful relationships, including friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship • Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships • How stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice) • That in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs • About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help • That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control • What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable • The legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal

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TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Online and media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online • About online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online • Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them • What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online • The impact of viewing harmful content • That specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners • That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail • How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online
Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships • How people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online)

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

TOPIC	STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW
Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship • That all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g. physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing • The facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women • That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others • That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex • The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available • The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage • That there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help) • How the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing • About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment • How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour • How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment

Appendix 3: Parent form: Withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	

Appendix 4: DfE RSE Statutory Guidance Suggested Resources

Link to Annex B (page 46) in DfE Relationship Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education guidance – Suggested resources:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805781/Relationships Education Relationships and Sex Education RSE and Health Education.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805781/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

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