



## Woodside Primary School

### RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) POLICY

Our school's policy on relationships and sex education is based on the 2019 document of statutory guidance for the delivery of 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education.' In the DfE document, Relationships and Health Education is compulsory for primary schools from September 2020. We at Woodside have produced a policy for Relationships and Health Education (RHE) and our own long term planning to match the learning objectives. Relationships and Sex Education is non statutory in primary schools but at Woodside we will continue to deliver Sex Education as part of our Y6 RHE curriculum.

#### **Aims and objectives**

We teach children about:

- puberty and the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- the way humans reproduce;
- respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term, and loving relationship;
- the importance of family life;
- moral questions;
- relationship issues;
- respect for the views of other people
- correct anatomical names

#### **Context**

We teach about sex in the context of the school's aims and values. While RSE in our school means that we give children information about sexual behaviour, we do this with an awareness of the moral code, and of the values which underpin all our work. We teach RSE on the understanding that:

- it is taught in the context of long term stable and loving relationships
- it is part of a wider process of social, personal, spiritual and moral education
- children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies
- children should learn about their responsibilities to others, and be aware of the consequences of sexual activity
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect

#### **The role of parents**

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's RSE lies with parents and carers. We therefore wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school, through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation. To promote this objective, we:

- inform parents about the school's RSE policy and practice
- answer any questions that parents may have about the RSE of their child
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about the arrangements for RSE in the school
- inform parents about the best practice known with regard to RSE, so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home

We believe that through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information, children will benefit from being given consistent messages about their changing bodies and their increasing responsibilities. Relationships and

Health Education is compulsory as is Science and parents cannot withdraw their child from these lessons. At Woodside, we are delivering extra RSE lessons which will cover sexual relationships. Parents do have a right to withdraw their child from these lessons and they should discuss this with the Head teacher if they have any concerns.

### **Confidentiality**

Teachers conduct RSE lessons in a sensitive manner, and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved (or being likely to be involved) in sexual activity, then the teacher will take the reference seriously, and deal with it as a matter of child protection. Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse. They will not try to investigate, but will immediately inform the named person for child protection issues about their concerns. The head teacher will then deal with the matter in consultation with health care professionals (see also our policy on Safeguarding and Child Protection).

### **Review**

Review Date – September 2024

To be reviewed - September 2025

**Headteacher:** Richard Collings



**Safeguarding lead:** Chelsea Percival



**Chair of Governors:** Rev. Emma Speake

