



**Matrix**  
**Academy Trust**  
EDUCATION WITHOUT EXCEPTION

# Relationships, Sex & Health Education (RSHE) Policy

|                             |                |   |               |
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| <b>Implementation date:</b> | March 2021     |   |               |
| <b>Last review date:</b>    | January 2024   |   |               |
| <b>Next review date:</b>    | January 2026   |   |               |
| <b>Review cycle:</b>        | Every 2 years  |   |               |
| <b>Statutory policy:</b>    | Yes            |   |               |
| <b>Date:</b>                | <b>Version</b> | <b>Reason for change</b>                | <b>Source</b> |
| 19.03.21                    | V2.0           | New Policy Drafting<br>Statutory Change | DfE           |

*To be read alongside all relevant Matrix Academy Trust policies and procedures*

# 1. AIMS

1.1 The aims of this policy is to provide a working document of clear guidance to Trustees, staff, parents/carers and pupils on the delivery of relationships and sex education (RSHE) at Trust Schools and to ensure pupils learn about:

## **Relationship and Sexual health including:**

- Different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships, intimate relationships, dealing with strangers, marriage or other type of committed relationship.
- How to recognise, understand and build healthy, nurturing relationships, including self-respect and respect for others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent, and how to manage conflict, and also how to recognise unhealthy relationships.
- How relationships may affect health and wellbeing, including mental health.
- Healthy relationships and safety online.
- Factual knowledge, and the law around sex, sexual health and sexual orientation, gender identity, set firmly within the context of relationships.
- Grooming, sexual exploitation and domestic abuse, including coercive and controlling behaviour.
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), honour based violence and forced marriage.

## **Physical health and mental wellbeing including:**

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Internet safety and harms
- Physical health and fitness
- Healthy eating
- Drugs and tobacco
- Health and prevention
- First Aid
- Changing adolescent body

1.2 Internet safety and the rules and principles for keeping safe online will be taught throughout all aspects of RSHE.

1.3 The aims above are in line with the core expectations that we promote to all pupils:

- Maintain a positive attitude.
- Show respect for all and display high levels of commitment to being the best you can be.
- To encourage and promote a 'telling school ethos'.

1.4 The content will be taught in an age appropriate and developmentally appropriate way. Topics will be taught sensitively and inclusively, with respect to the backgrounds and beliefs of pupils and parents while always with the aim of providing pupils with the knowledge they need of the law.

- 1.5 Teaching will build on the knowledge about relationships and sexual health as well as physical health and wellbeing acquired at primary school (Appendix 1) and develop further pupils' understanding of health, with an increased focus on risk areas such as drugs and alcohol, as well as introducing knowledge about intimate relationships and sex (Appendix 2).
- 1.6 Menstruation: Pupils will be taught key facts about the menstrual cycle. In addition to curriculum content, adequate arrangements will be made to help girls prepare for and manage menstruation, including requests for menstrual products.
- 1.7 Teaching about mental well-being is central and the content delivered will give pupils the knowledge and capability to take care of themselves and receive support if problems arise.
- 1.8 The content will support the wider work of school in helping to foster pupil well-being and develop resilience and character that we know are fundamental to pupils being happy, successful and productive members of society

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.

## 3. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 are made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. Relationships Education is compulsory in all primary schools in England and Relationships and Sex Education compulsory in all secondary schools. Health Education is compulsory in all state-funded schools.

3.2 The current statutory guidance can be found [here](#)

## 4. DEFINITION

- 4.1 RSHE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity. RSHE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

#### **4.2 RSHE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.**

## **5. DELIVERY OF THE PROGRAMME**

5.1 At Matrix Academy Trust we acknowledged that high-quality, evidence-based and age-appropriate teaching can help pupils prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life as well as promoting the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils both at school and in society.

5.2 RSHE will be set in the context of a wider whole-school approach to supporting pupils to be safe, happy and prepared for life beyond school. The curriculum on relationships and sex will complement, and be supported by, the school's wider policies on behaviour, inclusion, respect for equality and diversity, SEND, e-safety, anti-bullying and safeguarding.

5.3 RSHE is taught within the school's personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSHE are taught within the science curriculum.

5.4 Science, computing and physical education will complement some of the topics covered in Relationship Education, RSE and Health Education.

5.5 Across all Key Stages, pupils will be supported with developing the following skills:

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work

These skills will also be complimented within the teaching of Trust Values. Our whole school oracy protocols support pupils to speak clearly and confidently, expressing and valuing their own voices as well as those of others. Reading materials will also be used to deepen discussion and understanding of issue raised in the teaching of RSHE.

5.6 Anatomical terms and language will be used when teaching RSHE.

## **6. EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY**

- 6.1 We will use RSHE education as a way to address diversity issues and to ensure equality for all by addressing contextual issues.
- 6.2 RSHE delivery is designed to comply with the Equality Act 2010 and will include LGBT+ content in the programme. This will include talking about LGBT+ families and teaching about sexual orientation and gender identity.
- 6.3 The religious background of all pupils will be taken into account when planning teaching and comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010, under which religion or belief are amongst the protected characteristics.
- 6.4 Teaching will reflect the law (including the Equality Act 2010) as it applies to relationships, so that pupils clearly understand what the law allows and does not allow, and the wider legal implications of decisions they make.
- 6.5 Under the Equality Act, the school will not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnerships, or sexual orientation.

## **7. PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)**

- 7.1 Relationships Education, RSE and Health Education will be accessible for all pupils.
- 7.2 High quality teaching is differentiated and personalised. This is the starting point to ensure accessibility for all pupils.
- 7.3 The school will also be mindful of the preparing for adulthood outcomes as set out in the SEND code of practice, when preparing these subjects for pupils with SEND.
- 7.4 The school is aware that some pupils are more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND. Relationships Education can also be a priority for some pupils. For example pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs or learning disabilities. For some pupils there may be a need to tailor content and teaching to meeting the specific needs of children at different developmental stages.

## **8. PARENTS' RIGHT TO WITHDRAW**

- 8.1 Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of RSHE (intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health), up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms. Parents cannot withdraw their child from Relationships or Health Education.

8.2 Parents can identify when RSE is being covered by referring to the overviews on the school's website. (Found in appendix 3 of this document).

8.3 Requests for withdrawal should be made in writing and addressed to the Headteacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's file. The Headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Appropriate alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from RSE.

**8.4 There is no right to withdraw from Relationships or Health Education.**

## **9. WORKING WITH EXTERNAL AGENCIES**

9.1 To support and enhance the delivery of RSHE, Trust Schools works with external partners to draw on specialist knowledge and implement different ways of engaging with young people.

9.2 Where external agencies are used, the school will ensure that all the necessary checks are completed of the visiting organisation and any visitors linked to the agency.

9.3 The schools will work with external agencies to ensure that the content delivered is age-appropriate and accessible for all pupils. Any materials that are used as part of the delivery must be approved by the school in advance of the session.

9.4 The schools will ensure that the visitor is aware of aspects of confidentiality and understands how safeguarding reports should be dealt with in line with the school's Safeguarding Policy.

## **10. SAFEGUARDING, REPORTS OF ABUSE AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

10.1 The schools recognise that at the heart of RSHE, the focus is on keeping children safe, and acknowledges the significant role schools have in preventative education. Our RSHE and PSHE provision takes account of our local context and is responsive to the needs our pupils within the context of our community.

10.2 We will allow children an open forum to discuss potentially sensitive issues. Such discussions can lead to increased safeguarding reports. Children will be made aware of the processes to enable them to raise their concerns or make a report and how any report will be handled. This will also include processes when they have a concern about a peer or friend.

10.3 In line with the document Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE, 2020), all staff are aware of what to do if a pupil tells them that they are being abused or neglected. Staff are

also aware of the need to manage the requirement to maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality. This means only involving those that need to be involved, such as the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Children's Services.

10.4 A member of staff will never promise a child that they will not tell anyone about a report of abuse, as this is not in the best interests of the child.

## 11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

11.1 The delivery of RSHE is monitored by the school's Leadership team, Heads of House and the school's PSHE Lead through the school's monitoring programme of curriculum reviews, learning walks, PSHE working walls, lesson observation and pupil voice.

11.2 Pupils' development in RSHE is monitored by pupil surveys, self-evaluations, pop quizzes, written work and discussions.

11.3 RSHE is not formally assessed.

## 12 INFORMING AND INVOLVING PARENTS, STAFF AND PUPILS

12.1 Parents are the primary educators of their children and their role in education concerning relationships and sexuality is seen by the school as very important. Relevant sections of this RSHE policy will be included in the school's *Prospectus* booklet, published annually in August.

12.2 This policy has been designed in consultation with Parent Advisory Groups and via a Microsoft parental questionnaire to representatives and the views expressed by parents will be taken into account when reviewing the policy. A copy of this policy will be made available on the school's website as well as an overview of topics covered by each year group.

12.3 Pupils' views are gathered through school surveys and the various committees for example school Council, Mental Health Ambassadors, Digital Leaders and the Anti-bullying Champions that the school operates, identifying needs.

12.4 All staff play an important role in supporting the delivery and review of RSHE.

By the end of primary school pupils will have been taught about **relationships and sexual health**:

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| <p><b>Families and people who care for me</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability.</li> <li>• The characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong.</li> <li>• How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Caring friendships</b></p>                  | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.</li> <li>• The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust,</li> </ul>   |



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|  | <p>sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded.</li> <li>● That most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right.</li> <li>● How to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Respectful relationships</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs.</li> <li>● Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.</li> <li>● The conventions of courtesy and manners.</li> <li>● The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness.</li> <li>● 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 those in positions of authority.</li> <li>● About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help.</li> <li>● What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive.</li> <li>● The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Online relationships</b></p>     | <p>Pupils should know:</p>   |

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|                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not.</li> <li>● That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous.</li> <li>● The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them.</li> <li>● How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met.</li> <li>● How information and data is shared and used online</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Being safe</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context).</li> <li>● About the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe.</li> <li>● That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact.</li> <li>● How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know.</li> <li>● How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult.</li> <li>● How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard.</li> <li>● How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so.</li> <li>● Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources.</li> </ul> |

By the end of primary school pupils will have been taught about **physical health and mental wellbeing**:

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| <b>Mental Wellbeing</b> | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• That mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.</li><li>• That there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations.</li><li>• How to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and other's feelings.</li><li>• How to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate</li><li>• The benefits of physical exercise, time out doors, community participation, voluntary and service-based activity on mental wellbeing and happiness.</li><li>• Simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends, and family and the benefits of hobbies and interests.</li><li>• Isolation and loneliness can affect children and that it is very important for children to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support.</li><li>• That bullying (including cyber bullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental wellbeing.</li><li>• Where and how to seek support (including reconsidering the triggers for seeking support), including whom in school they should speak to if they are worried about their own or someone else's mental wellbeing or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online).</li><li>• It is common for people to experience mental ill health. For many people who do, the problems can be resolved if the right support is made available, especially if accessed early enough.</li></ul> |
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| <p><b>Internet safety and harms</b></p>   | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That for most people the internet is an integral part of life and has many benefits.</li> <li>• About the benefits of rationing time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and other's mental and physical wellbeing.</li> <li>• How to consider the effect of their online actions on others and know how to recognise and display respectful behaviour online and the importance of keeping personal information private.</li> <li>• Why social media, some computer games and online gaming, for example, are age restricted.</li> <li>• That the internet can also be a negative place where online abuse, trolling, bullying and harassment can take place, which can have negative impact on mental health.</li> <li>• How to be a discerning consumer of information online including understanding that information, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted.</li> <li>• Where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Physical health and fitness</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle</li> <li>• The importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other form of regular, vigorous exercise.</li> <li>• The risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity)</li> <li>• How and when to seek support including which adults to speak to in school if they are worried about their health.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Healthy eating</b></p>              | <p>Pupils should know</p>  |

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|                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What constituted a healthy diet (including understanding calories and other nutritional content)</li> <li>• The principles of planning and preparing healthy meals.</li> <li>• The characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating (including, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health).</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Drugs, alcohol and tobacco</b> | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug taking.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Health and prevention</b>      | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to recognised early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss, or unexplained changes to the body</li> <li>• About safe and unsafe exposure to the sun and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer.</li> <li>• The importance sufficient good quality sleep for good health and that a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.</li> <li>• About dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including regular check-ups at the dentist.</li> <li>• About personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of hand washing.</li> <li>• The facts and science relating to allergies, immunisation and vaccination.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Basic first aid</b>            | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary.</li> <li>• The concepts of basic first aid, for example, dealing with common injuries including head injuries.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Changing adolescent body</b>   | <p>Pupils should know</p>   |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes.</li><li>• About menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle.</li></ul> |
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**By the end of secondary school:**

Schools should continue to develop knowledge on topics specified for primary as required and, in addition, cover the following content about **relationships and sex education** by the end of secondary:

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| <p><b>Families</b></p>  | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That there are different types of committed, stable relationships.</li> <li>• How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into.</li> <li>• The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships.</li> <li>• The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Respectful relationships, including friendships</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.</li> </ul>   |

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|                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 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).</li> <li>● 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.</li> <li>● About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help.</li> <li>● That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control.</li> <li>● What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable.</li> <li>● 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.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Online and media</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online.</li> <li>● 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.</li> <li>● Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them.</li> <li>● What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online.</li> <li>● The impact of viewing harmful content.</li> <li>● That specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage</li> </ul>  |



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|  | <p>the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail.</li> <li>● How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Being safe</b></p>   | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 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.</li> <li>● 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).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 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.</li> <li>● 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.</li> <li>● The facts about reproductive health, including fertility, and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women and menopause.</li> <li>● That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others.</li> <li>● That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex.</li> </ul> |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available.</li> <li>• The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage.</li> <li>• 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).</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment.</li> <li>• How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour.</li> <li>• How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment.</li> </ul> |
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**Schools should continue to develop knowledge on topics specified for primary as required and, in addition, cover the following content about [physical health and mental wellbeing](#) by the end of secondary:**

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| <p><b>Mental wellbeing</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how to talk about their emotions accurately and sensitively, using appropriate vocabulary.</li> <li>• that happiness is linked to being connected to others.</li> <li>• how to recognise the early signs of mental wellbeing concerns.</li> <li>• common types of mental ill health (e.g. anxiety and depression).</li> <li>• how to critically evaluate when something they do or are involved in has a positive or negative effect on their own or others' mental health.</li> <li>• the benefits and importance of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation and voluntary and service-based activities on mental wellbeing and happiness.</li> </ul> |
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| <p><b>Internet Safety and Harms</b></p>   | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The similarities and differences between the online world and the physical world, including: the impact of unhealthy or obsessive comparison with others online (including through setting unrealistic expectations for body image).</li> <li>• How people may curate a specific image of their life online, over-reliance on online relationships including social media,</li> <li>• The risks related to online gambling including the accumulation of debt</li> <li>• How advertising and information is targeted at them and how to be a discerning consumer of information online.</li> <li>• How to identify harmful behaviours online (including bullying, abuse or harassment) and how to report, or find support, if they have been affected by those behaviours.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Physical health and fitness</b></p> | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the positive associations between physical activity and promotion of mental wellbeing, including as an approach to combat stress.</li> <li>• the characteristics and evidence of what constitutes a healthy lifestyle, maintaining a healthy weight, including the links between an inactive lifestyle and ill health, including cancer and cardiovascular ill-health.</li> <li>• about the science relating to blood, organ and stem cell donation.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Healthy eating</b></p>              | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to maintain healthy eating and the links between a poor diet and health risks, including tooth decay and cancer.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Drugs, alcohol and tobacco</b></p>  | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the facts about legal and illegal drugs and their associated risks, including the link between drug use, and the associated risks, including the link to serious mental health conditions.</li> <li>• the law relating to the supply and possession of illegal substances.</li> <li>• the physical and psychological risks associated with alcohol consumption and what constitutes low risk alcohol consumption in adulthood.</li> <li>• the physical and psychological consequences of addiction, including alcohol dependency.</li> </ul>  |

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
|                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• awareness of the dangers of drugs which are prescribed but still present serious health risks.</li> <li>• the facts about the harms from smoking tobacco (particularly the link to lung cancer), the benefits of quitting and how to access support to do so.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Health and prevention</b>    | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• about personal hygiene, germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread, treatment and prevention of infection, and about antibiotics.</li> <li>• about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including healthy eating and regular check-ups at the dentist.</li> <li>• (late secondary) the benefits of regular self-examination and screening.</li> <li>• the facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination.</li> <li>• the importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and how a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Basic first aid</b>          | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• basic treatment for common injuries.</li> <li>• life-saving skills, including how to administer CPR.</li> <li>• the purpose of defibrillators and when one might be needed.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Changing adolescent body</b> | <p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• key facts about puberty, the changing adolescent body and menstrual wellbeing.</li> <li>• the main changes which take place in males and females, and the implications for emotional and physical health.</li> </ul>  |



## Key Stage 3 PSHE Curriculum

|        | Autumn 1 [8 weeks]   | Autumn 2 [7 Weeks]  | Spring 1 [6 Weeks]   | Spring 2 [7 Weeks]  | Summer 1 [4 weeks]  | Summer 2 [7 weeks]   |
|--------|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| Year 7 | <b>Transition and Change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition To Year 7- My identity</li> <li>How happiness can be linked to others</li> <li>Respect and understanding the influence of others including online platforms</li> <li>What is a community?</li> <li>What makes a good friend? Supportive friendships and positive role models</li> <li>Careers and my aspirations</li> <li>Supporting your Mental Health during times of change</li> <li>Building resilience</li> </ul>  | <b>Protecting our physical health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical development during Puberty</li> <li>Emotional support during Puberty</li> <li>Healthy Routines- Personal Hygiene</li> <li>Healthy Routines- Dental Hygiene</li> <li>Healthy Choices- Diet including health risks due to poor diet</li> <li>Healthy Choices- Sleep</li> <li>Healthy Choices- Exercise</li> </ul>   | <b>Understanding families and the impact of relationships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meaning of family and supportive relationships</li> <li>What is bullying? Understanding different types of bullying</li> <li>How to respond to bullying</li> <li>Pressure, influence and friendship</li> <li>Self-worth, friendships, relationships and wellbeing</li> <li>How to stay safe with online friendships including grooming</li> </ul> | <b>Celebrating Equality and Diversity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>British Values and Britain as a multicultural society</li> <li>Understanding stereotypes and challenging discrimination</li> <li>Understanding the barriers individuals face due to disabilities</li> <li>Equality Act, Prejudice and Discrimination</li> </ul> <b>Finances and economic decisions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is a household budget?</li> <li>What are savings accounts and how do they work?</li> <li>Why do people borrow money?</li> </ul> | <b>Supporting Mental Wellbeing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding and managing my emotions</li> <li>What makes me happy? How can I support my own wellbeing?</li> <li>Raising my self-esteem and positive body image</li> <li>Recognising signs of mental health and how can others impact my Mental Wellbeing</li> </ul> | <b>Citizenship, Monarchy and Parliament</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to citizenship</li> <li>What is citizenship and the role it plays</li> <li>Democracy linked to British Values</li> <li>Living in a democracy</li> <li>What is a general election?</li> <li>The Role of Parliament</li> <li>Role of the Monarch</li> </ul>  |
| Year 8 | <b>Factors impacting our health and wellbeing.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health and Wellbeing- how physical health can impact mental health and vice versa.</li> <li>Benefits of exercise on mental and physical health</li> <li>Alcohol and the risks</li> <li>Risks of vaping and smoking</li> <li>Classification and influence of drugs</li> <li>Impact of drug abuse including the impact on mental health</li> <li>Peer pressure relating to drugs and alcohol and signposting support available</li> </ul> <p><i>*Year 8 first aid workshops throughout half term 1 including CPR (7 Forms)</i></p> | <b>Protecting ourselves online and in the community</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is cyber bullying? How can it impact health and wellbeing?</li> <li>Sharing information online- what not to do and why</li> <li>Media reliability and the impact of an echo chamber</li> <li>Gambling hooks</li> <li>Protecting your mental health online</li> <li>What is grooming? Link to online safety and county lines</li> <li>Knife crime and the law and signposting support</li> </ul> | <b>Overcoming discrimination, stereotypes and prejudice</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is identity? What makes my identity?</li> <li>Sexual orientation and gender identity</li> <li>LGBTQ+- what does it mean?</li> <li>Prejudice and discrimination</li> <li>Discrimination against disabilities</li> <li>Removing barriers- Equality Act and Protected Characteristics</li> </ul>  | <b>Family and respectful relationships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive characteristics of a relationship</li> <li>How can positive relationships contribute to happiness?</li> <li>Roles and responsibilities of parents</li> <li>Different types of relationships</li> <li>The laws surrounding marriage</li> <li>Dealing with conflict</li> </ul>   | <b>Employability and my aspirations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employability skills</li> <li>Careers and my aspirations</li> <li>What are my education choices?</li> <li>Sectors and opportunities and the Equality Act in the workplace</li> </ul>   | <b>Citizenship, Law, crime and the justice system</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revisit citizenship and laws</li> <li>The Right to Work- British Values</li> <li>The Justice System</li> <li>The role of Police, Courts, and Tribunals.</li> </ul> <b>Finances and economic decisions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Importance of budgeting</li> <li>Managing risks with money</li> <li>The impact of Politicians and the "Economy"</li> </ul> |
| Year 9 | <b>Responding to life circumstances</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building self-esteem</li> <li>How to recognise early signs of mental wellbeing</li> <li>Life choices and responding to peer pressure</li> <li>Support for change of circumstances, loss and grief</li> <li>Impact of body image and media expectations</li> <li>Co-existing with others and dealing with conflict</li> <li>Importance of physical health, immunisations, diet and exercise</li> </ul>   | <b>Intimate relationships and the Law</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of relationships</li> <li>Marriage and the freedom of choice</li> <li>Introduction to sexual relationships and the law</li> <li>Consent, the law and the right to withdraw</li> <li>Contraception</li> <li>Introduction to sexually transmitted diseases (STI's)</li> <li>Coercive control and what constitutes as sexual harassment, sexual violence and how they are not acceptable</li> </ul>   | <b>Skills, aspirations, and my future</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing my employability skills</li> <li>Building resilience and confidence</li> <li>Career aspirations and realistic goals</li> <li>What sets me apart? Volunteering, extra-curricular and skill sets</li> <li>Working with others and managing setbacks</li> <li>What options will support my future?</li> </ul>   | <b>Equality, Diversity and Prevent</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>British Values and the purpose relating to Prevent</li> <li>What is extremism and radicalisation?</li> <li>The narratives and process of radicalisation</li> <li>How to protect yourself and others</li> <li>Hate crime and the law</li> <li>Personal boundaries and FGM</li> </ul>   | <b>Dangers of lifestyle choices</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of drugs and the risk of addiction</li> <li>Dangers and laws of "party drugs"</li> <li>Impact of drug use on health and wellbeing</li> <li>The risks of alcohol consumption</li> </ul>   | <b>Citizenship and the right to Vote</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The right to vote- British Values</li> <li>The voting system</li> <li>Political parties</li> <li>The Election system</li> </ul> <b>Risks to financial decisions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online gambling</li> <li>The risk of debt</li> <li>Saving and preparing for my future</li> </ul>  |

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## Key Stage 4 PSHE Curriculum

|         | Autumn 1 [8 weeks]  | Autumn 2 [7 Weeks]   | Spring 1 [6 Weeks]   | Spring 2 [7 Weeks]   | Summer 1 [4 weeks]   | Summer 2 [7 weeks]  |
|---------|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Year 10 | <p><b>Exploring influences on health and wellbeing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of mental health and the signs</li> <li>Stigma and myths surrounding Mental Health</li> <li>Mental health and the impact of social media</li> <li>Strategies to promote positive wellbeing and signposting support</li> <li>The importance of sleep</li> <li>Responding to peer pressure</li> <li>Impact of vaping and smoking</li> </ul> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stewardship</li> </ul> | <p><b>Healthy Relationships choices and consent</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unhealthy relationships, coercive control and abuse</li> <li>Sexual Harassment</li> <li>Online images, pornography, and the law</li> <li>STI's and the impact on health and fertility</li> <li>Raising awareness of FGM</li> <li>Honor Based violence and forced marriage</li> </ul> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animal Testing</li> </ul> | <p><b>Family, love and responsibilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respect, trust love and relationships</li> <li>Characteristics of successful parenting</li> <li>Conflict and changing relationships</li> <li>LGBTQ+ - The freedom to love</li> <li>Overcoming discrimination, stereotypes and prejudice</li> </ul> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abortion</li> </ul> | <p><b>Exploring external influences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online safety, keeping your data safe and algorithms</li> <li>Gang culture and the impact of role models</li> <li>Danger of classified drugs and Prescription drugs</li> <li>Alcohol and the risk to decision making including the impact on health and wellbeing</li> </ul> <p><b>*Year 10 first aid workshops throughout half term including CPR (7 Forms)</b></p> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilitarianism</li> </ul> | <p><b>Resilience, study skills and preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to maintain effective revision practice for mock exams</li> <li>Resilience and preparation</li> <li>Supporting physical and mental health during exam series</li> </ul> <p><b>*Year 10 first aid workshops throughout half term including CPR (2 Forms)</b></p> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Caste System- Social Hierarchy</li> </ul> | <p><b>Mock Examination Series</b></p> <p><b>Citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governance and relations to the rest of Europe, Commonwealth, UN and the wider world.</li> <li>Human Rights and International Law</li> <li>Parliamentary Democracy and Electoral Systems</li> <li>Democratic and non-democratic systems beyond the UK</li> </ul> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pluralism- link to equality and diversity</li> </ul> |
| Year 11 | <p><b>Building for the future</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are my options for the future?</li> <li>Planning my next steps and making SMART targets</li> <li>Writing a CV and application</li> <li>Preparing for an interview</li> <li>Understanding a bank account</li> <li>What does my payslip mean?</li> <li>Understanding the risk of financial exploitation and online targets</li> </ul> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equality and Diversity</li> </ul>                            | <p><b>Mock Examination Series</b></p> <p><b>Guidance for health support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organ and blood donation and the law</li> <li>The choices surrounding teenage pregnancy</li> <li>Pregnancy and miscarriage</li> <li>Factors impacting fertility</li> <li>Self-examination</li> </ul> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Euthanasia</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Communication in relationships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assertive communication and supporting boundaries</li> <li>Changing relationships and the ability to end them</li> <li>Love and abuse</li> <li>Domestic violence and abuse</li> <li>Revenge pornography</li> </ul> <p>RE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mindfulness</li> </ul>                                 | <p><b>Supporting your mental health and wellbeing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible health choices</li> <li>Supporting exam stress and anxiety</li> <li>Positive impact of diet and exercise</li> <li>Reducing screen time and the importance of sleep</li> <li>Social events, peer pressure and the influence of substances</li> <li>The impact of a digital footprint</li> <li>Peer pressure and protecting my future</li> </ul>  | <p>Revision and Assessments</p>  | <p>Revision and Assessments</p>   |

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## Key Stage 5 PSHE Curriculum

|         | Autumn 1 [8 weeks]  | Autumn 2 [7 Weeks]  | Spring 1 [6 Weeks]   | Spring 2 [7 Weeks]  | Summer 1 [4 weeks]       | Summer 2 [7 weeks]       |
|---------|---|---|--|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Year 13 | <b>Personal Finance and employment rights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does my payslip mean?</li> <li>• What is unemployment and the use of the P60 and P45</li> <li>• Employment rights and the role of a Union</li> <li>• The role of a pension and your contributions</li> <li>• How is National Insurance and Tax collected</li> <li>• Managing household bills and budgeting</li> <li>• Types of Loan including credit card, loans and mortgages</li> </ul> | <b>Diversity and safety into adulthood</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protected characteristics, employment and further education</li> <li>• Gender identity, stereotypes and discrimination</li> <li>• LGBTQ+ and Equality rights</li> <li>• Extremism, radicalisation and gang culture</li> <li>• Knife crime and the law</li> <li>• Online dating, safety, stalking and sexual harassment</li> </ul> | <b>Responsible choices and the impact on your future</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsibility of parenthood</li> <li>• Respect, relationships and consent</li> <li>• Safe sex and contraception</li> <li>• Health choices and impact on fertility</li> <li>• The Law surrounding drugs and the impact of classification including possession and distribution.</li> <li>• The risk on health of substance abuse including alcohol, vaping, smoking and drugs</li> </ul> | <b>Healthy lifestyles and choices</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dealing with exam stress</li> <li>• Support with mental health into adulthood to overcome apprehension of change</li> <li>• Sleep Hygiene and mental health</li> <li>• Healthy diet to manage health related illnesses</li> <li>• Resilience and managing this into adulthood</li> <li>• How to access healthcare and resources available</li> </ul> | Revision and Assessments | Revision and Assessments |
|         | <b>RE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secularisation</li> </ul>  | <b>RE</b><br>Gender identity  | <b>RE</b><br>Leaving a legacy  |   |                          |                          |

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