

WELCOME TO THE RSE AND PSHE PARENT CONSULTATION

Schedule

5 – 5.10 – Introduction, purpose and understanding RSE

5.10-5.20 – The curriculum structure and statutory changes

5.20-5.30 – Q&A and survey responses

Hosted by Zoë Steele – Head of PSHE Curriculum and
Teresa Dunseith – Vice Principal (Teaching and Learning)



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Purpose of Consultation

Understand the importance and statutory nature of RSE within the curriculum, delivered safely and inclusively.

Partnership with Parents

Parents as primary educators and the curriculum's role to complement home conversations on values and relationships.

Upcoming Statutory Changes

Outline the changes effective from September 2026 and the school's approach to adapting to these requirements.

Building Trust and Transparency

Set clear expectations for safeguarding, openness, and shared responsibility to reduce misconceptions about RSE and PSHE topics.

RSE – RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

Compulsory RSE Education

RSE is mandatory in all secondary schools in England, ensuring consistent education on relationships and health.

Focus on Safe Relationships

RSE equips young people with skills to form safe, healthy, and respectful relationships, including friendships and family ties.

Supporting Mental and Physical Health

The curriculum helps pupils understand their own wellbeing to make informed and responsible choices.

Parental Rights and Safeguarding

Parents can withdraw children from some sex education, but relationships education remains compulsory for safeguarding.

RSE – WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Understanding Healthy Relationships

RSE helps students recognise healthy versus unhealthy relationships and the importance of consent.

Addressing Online Safety Risks

The curriculum addresses online safety, exploitation, and peer pressure to protect students.

Promoting Emotional Wellbeing

RSE fosters emotional wellbeing by providing guidance on mental health and coping strategies.

Building Safeguarding Culture

Teaching help-seeking, reporting concerns, and support strengthens the school's safeguarding culture.

Our approach

Age appropriate, learning develops each year through lessons, and experts are used where appropriate.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Structured Curriculum Delivery

RSE is taught progressively from Year 7 to Year 13 through a well-sequenced PSHE curriculum. Students in KS3 are taught in their streamed classes.

Flexible Learning Approaches

Learning occurs via lessons (KS3), tutor time (KS4 & 5), assemblies, and drop-down days to reinforce key themes.

Qualified Educators and Expertise

Qualified teachers deliver most sessions, supplemented by external experts enhancing learning quality.

Review and Feedback

Curriculum is reviewed using student feedback, and statutory guidance. This parental consultation will also inform some adjustments.

Key Stage 3 Themes

Focus on bullying, conflict management, healthy friendships, puberty, stereotypes, and online safety including fake news.

Key Stage 4 and 5 Themes

Covers consent, sexual health, contraception, pornography impact, image sharing, pregnancy, and long-term relationships.

Inclusive and Supportive Approach

Lessons are factual, sensitive, and inclusive, ensuring students feel supported and informed throughout both stages. Lesson content is inclusive and uses real-life style examples.

Curriculum Transparency

Sharing curriculum topics to help parents understand what students learn and why topics are relevant and necessary.

CURRICULUM PROGRESSION – HOW DOES LEARNING PROGRESS EACH YEAR

Foundation in Year 7

Year 7 covers friendships, bullying, puberty, personal safety and the introduction of consent to build a strong foundational understanding.

Development of Social Understanding

Year 8 focuses on consent, stereotypes and decision-making to deepen social awareness and responsibility.

Addressing Complex Issues

Year 9 introduces contraception, image sharing, misogyny in the media, and online harms to tackle more challenging topics.

Advanced Relationship Topics

Years 10 and 11 cover sexual health, consent in more depth, long-term relationships, fertility, and parenthood routes. Y12 and 13 build on these topics.

Focus on Safeguarding and Online Harms

Updated guidance increases emphasis on safeguarding, online harms, and age-appropriate sequencing in RSE education.

Addressing Image Sharing and Misinformation

Schools must clearly address issues like image sharing, misinformation, misogyny, and build digital resilience among students.

Parental Consultation and Transparency

Guidance reinforces the need for schools to consult parents, ensuring transparency and shared understanding of curriculum changes.

Curriculum Alignment and Review

Schools proactively review policies and curriculum to align with updated guidance, reflecting community feedback. (reactive)

PARENTAL SUPPORT

How can parents and carers help at home?

Open Age-Appropriate Conversations

Parents should engage in open, age-appropriate discussions to reinforce respectful and safe behaviour learned at school.

Listening and Encouraging Questions

Listening without judgement and encouraging children to ask questions helps deepen understanding and trust.

Using Trusted Resources

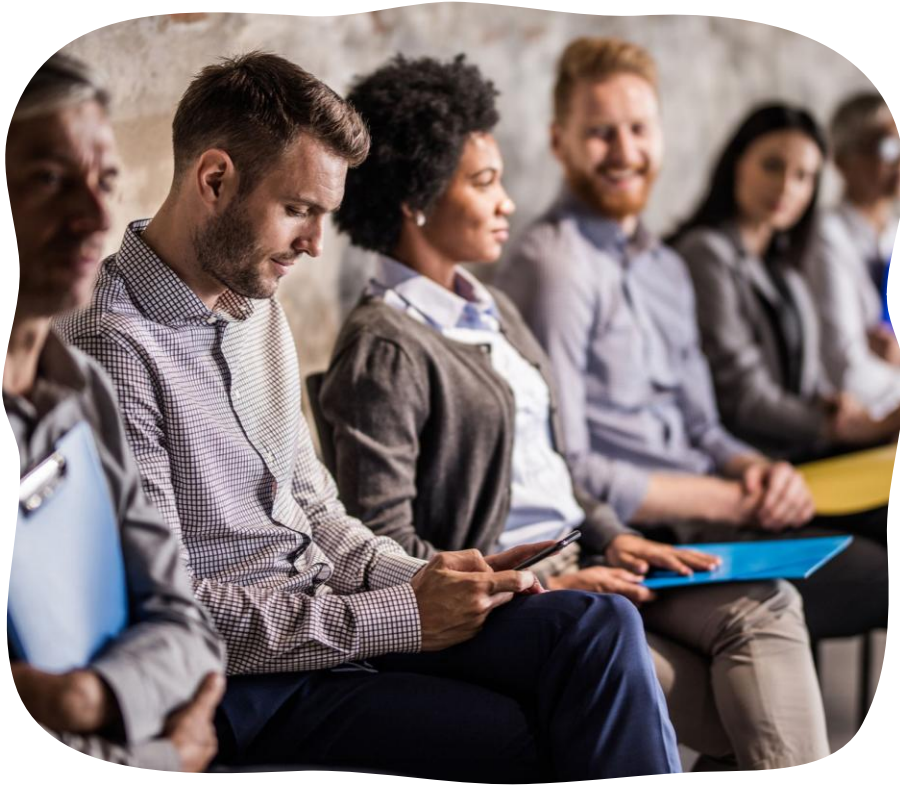
On our website, we will provide guidance to trusted resources like NHS and NSPCC to support parents discussing sensitive topics confidently.

Partnership for Consistent Messages

Collaboration between parents and schools ensures consistent messages that support young people's wellbeing and understanding.



CONSULTATION PROCESS



Consultation Opportunities

Parents, staff, and governors can review key documents and share their views during the consultation process.

Feedback Collection Methods

The survey and this online meeting will be used to gather feedback that informs policy review and curriculum refinement.

Meaningful Engagement

Feedback will be shared within the next few weeks, including any answers to questions or suggestions.

Consultation Timeline

The consultation survey remains open until Friday 12th June.

Q & A

From survey responses so far...



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More transparency

More detailed curriculum plans shared with parents

Support available

Signposting support on the school websites on specific topics

Concerns about content

All content is age appropriate and reviewed in line with statutory guidance