



Kings Academy Trust

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Date of Issue: September 2020

Date of Last Review: September 2023

Date of Next Review: September 2024

The Kings Academy Trust want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe, and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. That is why, from September 2020, all secondary age children will be taught Relationships, Sex and Health Education.

These subjects are designed to equip pupils with the knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as preparing them for a successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when this curriculum was last updated - these changes bring the content into the 21st century, so that it is relevant for pupils.

Relationships and Sex Education will build on the teaching at primary. It aims to give young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds.

Content will include what healthy and unhealthy relationships look like and what makes a good friend, colleague and successful marriage or committed relationship. At the appropriate time, the focus will move to developing intimate relationships, to equip pupils with the knowledge they need to make safe, informed and healthy choices as they progress through adult life.

By the end of secondary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- families
- respectful relationships, including friendships
- online media
- being safe
- intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

The new statutory regulations and guidance apply from September 2020, and until then the statutory Sex and Relationships Education Guidance (2000)^{vi} is still in effect.

• Under the current SRE guidance, until September 2020, parents can choose to withdraw their child (up to the age of 18) from any or all aspects of Sex and Relationships Education that are not included within the statutory National Curriculum.

This means that parents are not permitted to withdraw their child from elements of sex education (for example reproductive and biological aspects) that are within the science curriculum.

Schools must make alternative arrangements for pupils whose parents choose to withdraw them from SRE lessons.

The right of withdrawal from September 2020

The statutory guidance for RSE and Health Education will come into effect in all secondary schools from 2020, including academies, free schools and independent schools.

In secondary education from September 2020:

- Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from any aspect of Relationships Education or Health Education.
- Parents will be able to withdraw their child (following discussion with the school) from any or all aspects of Sex Education, other than those which are part of the science curriculum, up to and until three terms before the age of 16.
- After that point, the guidance states that '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.'
- Where pupils are withdrawn from sex education, schools should document the process and will have to 'ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal.'