

	The Gregg Schools Trust Proprietor of The Gregg School and The Gregg Preparatory School		Document Owner: Head of PSD
	TGS Relationships & Sex Education Policy Statement		Document Type: Policy Statement
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Definition of RSE – from Sex Education Forum

Relationships and sex education (RSE) is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. It should equip children and young people with the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships, to enjoy their sexuality and to take responsibility for their sexual health and wellbeing.

The Gregg School take its responsibility to provide relevant, effective and responsible Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) to all its pupils as part of the school's Personal, Social Development (PSD) curriculum very seriously. The Gregg School want parents and pupils to feel assured that sex education will be delivered at a level appropriate to both the age and development of those being taught.

This teaching is not intended to replace advice or guidance which is received at home, but to supplement and broaden knowledge and understanding.

This policy is drafted by Marsha Dowie, Head of PSD, in consultation with the Deputy Head, Mr Gillespie. Parents are given the opportunity to discuss this policy content should they wish to.

Aims of Policy:

RSE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about teaching sex, sexuality and sexual health in a way that is fully understood and

effectively retained by the pupils in our care. This includes emphasis on good health, the value of self-esteem in making choices and judgements, the nature of healthy and consensual relationships, and knowledge about how the body works, all within a context of moral issues and values.

The purpose of RSE is to give the pupils the information to lead a healthy and safe lifestyle and to care and respect their bodies. We provide them with the right tools to enable them to seek information or support should they need to, both during their school years and after.

Provision

The Gregg School follows the Department for Education guidance that has been mandatory in England since September 2021: *Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory Guidance*. Taught PSHE has also been part of the Independent Schools Standards since 2014. We aim to provide a relevant, broad and balanced curriculum that not only fulfils, but exceeds externally set standards.

The Gregg School PSD curriculum is spiral, so that topics can be explored in more depth in later years, building on prior knowledge. Although the topics below are listed specifically, we treat Relationships and Sex Education as part of the wider PSD curriculum. We support equal opportunities in education seeing it as enabling and encouraging all our students to build self-esteem through skills irrespective of gender roles and stereotyping.

The main topics covered in RSE are:

- Families, including different types of committed stable relationships
- Establishing healthy relationships
- Sexuality and Gender identity
- Puberty, menstruation and change
- Consent and how to communicate this to others
- Unhealthy relationships
- Domestic abuse
- Contraception and safer sex
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Understanding our bodies
- Pleasure
- Sexting
- Sexual exploitation
- Sex and pornography
- Personal choices
- The law in relation to marriage, consent, violence against women and girls, online behaviours, pornography, abortion, sexuality, gender identity, female genital mutilation.

As part of the PSD programme, Relationships and Sex education is taught by subject specialist teachers in set class groups using a wide range of activities with materials and support provided by other professionals as appropriate.

The programme is delivered and reviewed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents to ensure that it meets the needs of the whole school community including neurodiverse pupils, our LGBTQ+ community and Government guidelines.

We ensure RSE is age appropriate across all year groups; this means ensuring that the curriculum develops as our pupils so and meets their needs.

We ensure that staff are given regular and ongoing training on issues related to RSE including confidentiality, setting ground rules and establishing positive behaviour, handling controversial issues, and responding to questions. We also ensure that all staff are up to date with policy changes, and are familiar with the school policy and guidance relating to relationships and sex education.

Terminology

Pupils will be taught anatomically correct names for body parts, as well as slang and everyday terms used in social situations. This will be part of the discussion about what is, and what is not, acceptable language to be used. We recognise that the correct language used for body parts can be a key part in helping young people protect themselves from sexual assault or exploitation.

Ground rules are essential when discussing sensitive subject matter and staff will use strategies to enable pupils to feel comfortable to ask questions. If controversial questions are asked, the teacher will use their professional judgement about how to answer them and pupils will be allowed to raise anonymous questions if preferred.

We recognise that because of the nature of the subject sensitive and controversial topics are likely to arise. These may include, for example, abortion, emerging gender identity, sexuality and sexual abuse. These are dealt with within the framework of the aims of the school and of the Relationships and Sex Education policy as a whole. Any cause for concern will be dealt with in accordance to our pastoral and safeguarding systems.

Guest Speakers

Outside speakers are sometimes used to compliment our teaching of this content, are asked to work within the framework of the school's Relationships and Sex Education policy and adhere to the policy for visiting speakers. A Gregg School teacher will be present throughout these lessons.

Withdrawal from RSE

The Gregg School aims to keep parents informed about all aspects of the RSE curriculum and urges parents to review this policy. RSE is a vital part of the school curriculum and supports the whole development of the child. Parents have the right

to withdraw their child from sex education. Any parents considering withdrawing their child should contact the Head Teacher, Mrs Sheri Sellers, or Deputy Head, Mr Steve Gillespie, to discuss their concerns. According to *Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory Guidance* paragraph 41-43, pupils can opt into sex education from three terms before their 16th birthday, without their parents' consent.

Review and Evaluation

The educational and personal needs of our pupils develop in line with varying societal pressures and other changes. For this reason, we regularly review our RSE curriculum. This policy and accompanying schemes of work will be reviewed annually and/or when changes are made to the DFE's RSE statutory guidance.