



St. Stephen's School  
and Children's Centre  
*Learning for life*

## Relationships and Health Education (RHE) Policy

	Date	By	Role	Ratified	Date
Version 1	March 2021	SLT	HT/DHTs/ SBM/AHTs	Governors	
Version 2	January 2022	RM	RHE Coordinator	Governors	

**Please note that this policy will be reviewed after the National Consultation for RSHE where recommendations will inform updated statutory guidance.**

**As a Rights Respecting school, we put the United Nations Convention of the rights of the child at the heart of our policies and practice.**

Article 3: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

and

Article 12: Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

and

Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.

Boroughwide consultation took place concerning the implementation of the 2020/2021 guidance in RSHE. The following groups were all consulted by the borough.

Pupils	Parents/ carers	Community groups	Faith groups	Local councillors	Teachers	Ofsted	School governors	LA	Professional Associations
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

School-wide consultation took place concerning the implementation of the 2020/2021 guidance in RSHE.

	Consultation Date(s)	Process	Outcomes
Pupils	12.05.2020	Q & A discussion	Curriculum reviewed in line with responses
Parents	07.12.2020 - 15.01.2021	Written Feedback requested for Policy & Curriculum Video explanation of resources Leadership Video explanation around choices in RSHE proposal 1:1 meetings where requested	Curriculum reviewed in line with responses.  Opportunity to see resources for Relationships Education content requested.
Staff	23.11.2020 - 08.01.2021	Staff presentation Written feedback Online survey/responses 1:1 meetings where requested	Curriculum reviewed in line with responses.
Governors	20.11.2020 - 08.01.2021	Governors' Presentation Written Feedback Meetings where requested	Governing Body in support of proposals.

### **Policy statement - Aims and objectives of RHE**

It is the intention of The Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre to teach high quality, age appropriate, pupil-sensitive, evidence-based RHE, that demonstrates a respect for the law and all communities that call Newham home.

It is expected that RHE in The Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre will help pupils to learn about themselves and the world they live in, giving them the skills, understanding and information they need for life. This will help them to stay safe and to flourish, not just in childhood, but into adulthood and for the rest of their lives. This is why RHE is such an important part of the curriculum.

### **Sex Education**

The Government and local advisors strongly recommend that primary schools teach sex education beyond that taught within the science curriculum.

The Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre has decided **not to teach sex education** and will not teach 'how a human baby is conceived and born'. Reproduction in mammals/plants will still be taught as part of national curriculum science in year 5.

Although The Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre has made the decision not to teach sex education, we recommend that parents/carers deliver this aspect of the curriculum when they feel it is appropriate for their child.

### **Statutory content: RHE**

By law primary schools are required to teach relationships and health education, alongside national curriculum science and within the context of safeguarding. Here at The Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre we acknowledge that parents/carers are a child's first and most effective teacher and so will ensure that we have annual communication with parents/carers to present our RHE curriculum as well as opportunities to hear from parents/carers about any concerns or questions they may have. We are clear that our aim is to educate pupils about these important subjects alongside parents and carers.

## **Statutory Curriculum Content:**

### **Science**

At key stages 1 and 2, the national curriculum for science includes teaching about the main external parts of the body and the changes to the human body as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty, and reproduction in mammals and plants.

**By law, there is no right to withdraw from the national curriculum.** (See curriculum map for list of content where Science and RHE interconnect.)

### **PSHE**

Our PSHE education programme equips our pupils with a sound understanding of risk and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions.

We use PSHE education to build, where appropriate, on the statutory content outlined in the national curriculum, the basic school curriculum and in the relevant statutory guidance.

**By law, there is no right to withdraw from the national curriculum.** (See curriculum map for list of content where PSHE and RHE interconnect.)

### **Computing (inc. Online Safety)**

Computing and technology skills are central in the personal and working lives of the majority of people. They cut across age groups and have a wide variety of uses.

All children must be given an opportunity to develop their computing and technology skills to ensure that they are equipped to deal with the rapidly developing, technological world and become global citizens.

**By law, there is no right to withdraw from the national curriculum.** (See curriculum map for list of content where Computing (inc. Online Safety) and RHE interconnect.)

### **Health Education (Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing)**

The aim of Health Education is to give pupils the information that they need to make good decisions about their physical and mental health and wellbeing. Pupils will recognise what is normal and what is an issue in themselves and others, and how to seek support at the earliest stage from appropriate sources.

Puberty, including menstruation, will be covered in Health Education and should, as far as possible, be addressed before children begin puberty.

**By law, there is no right to withdraw from Health Education.** (See curriculum map for full list of content)

### **Relationships Education**

Relationships Education at the Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre teaches the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with family members, other children and adults. Lessons are evidence based and appropriate.

**By law, there is no right to withdraw from Health Education.** (See curriculum map for full list of content)

### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding is an important aspect of all of the lessons taught as part of RHE in our school. Our safeguarding policy will be applied to and supported by all aspects of RHE and any disclosures or issues arising as part of RHE will be dealt with in line with our safeguarding policy.

### **Equality**

The school will comply with the relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equalities Duty (2014): schools must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils or allow children to be bullied because of their age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership, or sexual orientation (Protected Characteristics)

The delivery of the content of RHE will be made accessible to all pupils, including those with SEND.

Our school celebrates difference and diversity. The bullying of anyone for any reason is not acceptable. Our Relationships Education curriculum will lead to a stronger sense of community, mutual respect and gives pupils a sense of responsibility. This will help to keep The Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre a safe, inclusive and caring place for all, upholding the school vision:

Every St. Stephen's child blossoms into a confident, respectful modern British citizen prepared to be an aspirational contributor in the global community.

### **Monitoring evaluation and assessment**

To ensure that the teaching and learning in RHE in our school is of the highest standard, it will be monitored by the school.

The school will identify pupils' prior knowledge and assess their learning and progress which will be evidenced through the PSHE monitoring cycle and the use of PSHE diaries.

### **Training and Resources**

The school will draw from a number of quality assured educational resources which we have made bespoke to our setting. No one resource will be used in its entirety.

It is the role of the PSHE, Science, Online Safety, RE subject coordinators and RHE Lead to ensure that resources are appropriate and up to date for the school's use in teaching RHE. Any resources used will be pre-assessed to ensure that the content is age appropriate and in line with our school policy.

The St. Stephen's Federation is a member of the Newham RSHE Network. The RHE lead has attended every training and information session offered through this programme. The RSHE Network approach has been approved by: Newham Local Authority; Newham Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE), Newham Association of Primary Headteachers (NAPH) and Newham Association of Secondary Headteachers (NASH)

### **RHE Structure**

RHE at The Federation of St. Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre is delivered by a team, with overall responsibility remaining with the Head Teacher - Neena Lall OBE.

See below for details of who to contact should you have a question relating to any aspect of our RHE curriculum. The whole of the Leadership team is also available.

<b>Neena Lall OBE Headteacher</b>			
<b>Mark Little SBM Federation Health and Safety</b>		<b>Fozia Ramzan Federation Deputy Headteacher</b>	
	<b>RHE</b>	<b>Safeguarding</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>
<b>Member of Leadership Responsible</b>	James Frecknall <u>Specialist Leader of Education (PSHE)</u> (AHT)	Chetan Patel (AHT - Primary DSL) Janet Patterson (DHT - Nursery DSL)	Chetan Patel (AHT - Curriculum) Anna Diaper (AHT - Nursery Curriculum)
<b>Coordinators</b>	Ruth Munglani (RHE) Beth Hutchinson (RE) Halama Ali (Science) Shabana Zia (Online Safety) Lyndall Taylor (PSHE)		

*Policy developed from materials shared with Jo Sell from Tower Hamlets Local Authority and used with permission.*

*Approved by: Newham Local Authority; Newham Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE), Newham Association of Primary Headteachers (NAPH) and Newham Association of Secondary Headteachers (NASH)*