

ALBURGH WITH DENTON CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL

RSE POLICY



Adopted by the Governing Body: May 2021

Due to be reviewed: Summer 2024

Alburgh with Denton CofE Primary School offers a broad and balanced curriculum, that aims to meet the needs of every child and provides the opportunities for children to achieve their full potential in all areas of their development. This includes promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils and preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. RSE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development and the understanding of the importance of loving and caring relationships. RSE is part of our PSHE curriculum.

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if the RSE curriculum is amended, in response to emerging themes, changing pupil needs, or introduction of new legislation and guidance.

Parents will be informed about the policy through annual consultation, referencing in the school prospectus and a copy of the policy can be found on the school website. If a hard-copy of the document is required the school will be happy to provide this upon request. The school will work with parents requiring the policy in an alternative format, ensuring equitable accessibility for all.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of RSE is to provide children with age appropriate information, explore attitudes and values and develop skills in order to empower them to make positive decisions about their health related behaviour.

The objectives of RSE are:

- To provide the knowledge and information at an age appropriate level.
- To raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others.
- To help pupils to develop skills (language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) and make the most of their abilities.
- Providing an inclusive learning environment which is safe and empowering for everyone
- To provide the confidence to be participating members of society and to value themselves and others.
- To develop skills for a healthy and safe lifestyle.
- To respect and care for their bodies.
- Teaching non-biased, accurate and factual information that is positively inclusive.
- Developing character skills to support healthy and safe relationships, ensure comfortable communication about emotions, bodies and relationships using appropriate terminology.
- Promoting critical awareness of differing attitudes and views presented through Society, the media and peers to enable the nurturing of personal values based on respect.
- Ensuring pupils are informed of their rights, including the legal framework and how to access confidential help to keep themselves and others safe.

Values Framework

All those who teach aspects of RSE within school will be guided by the following values framework which represents the values held in common by the whole school community and our rights respecting school award. The teaching of RSE will encourage pupils to:

- Value and respect themselves

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- Value and respect others
- Value and respect differences in people's religion, culture, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability and social background.

The Teaching and Organisation of RSE

RSE will be taught using the Jigsaw materials and will be based in a format which pupils are already familiar with. The wide range of teaching strategies promotes engagement by all pupils, irrespective of preferred learning styles.

Distancing techniques, such as the use of characters may be used within RSE and avoids pupils feeling under pressure to participate or disclose information beyond that which is appropriate or feels comfortable. This strategy makes RSE more accessible to all pupils, including those who may have experienced unhealthy relationships and/or abuse. The school's responsibility to safeguard pupils through a curriculum that prepares them to live safely in the modern world will remain central to curriculum content, teaching methodologies and supporting resources.

At Alburgh with Denton Primary School we actively celebrate the diversity of our pupils, their families and the wider whole school community. RSE will always be taught in a non-judgemental, non-biased and fully inclusive manner through clear, impartial, scientific information as well as covering the law. Through consultation, continual assessment and regular reviews of the curriculum, we ensure that we continually recognise and respect pupils' different abilities, levels of maturity and personal circumstances including gender identity, faith or culture and that of their family, friends and the wider whole school community.

During lessons pupils will be provided with an opportunity to ask questions as a class and can also ask anonymous questions through the use of an 'ask it basket' (each class base will have a basket available for questions).

At the end of every lesson, teachers will signpost pupils to information relevant to the topic being taught to ensure safe sources of information, advice and guidance are provided. This will ensure the staff can be responsive to pupils' pastoral needs, and safeguarding arrangements can be actioned efficiently if required. If the school has any reason to believe a pupil is at risk of harm, staff are required to respond in accordance with the school's safeguarding policy.

RSE will be taught in year groups rather than whole classes.

RSE is most effective when it is a collaboration between school and home.

Parents will be invited to review the resources being taught to pupils prior to the lessons if they wish. The school operates an open-door policy enabling parents to discuss RSE at relevant times throughout the school year.

RSE is taught as part of PSED, Understanding the World and RE in the EYFS. RSE is taught within the PSHE programme at Key Stage 1. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the Science curriculum and some moral aspects are taught within RE.

Elements of RSE may also be addressed across the wider curriculum including, but not limited to, philosophy, school council meetings, e-safety sessions, Collective Worship and Forest School.

Science Curriculum – Animals, including humans

Year 1 Statutory Requirements

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Pupils should be taught to: Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

Year 2 Statutory Requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

Year 5/6 Statutory Requirements

- Describe the changes as humans develop to old age

Our PSHE curriculum is based upon recommendations by the PSHE Association and follows the DfE guidance.

Terminology

OfSTED guidance recommends that it is important for children to learn the language associated with body parts so that children are able to talk to health professionals.

Therefore, teachers will use the anatomically correct language for body parts, while acknowledging common terms used by some people.

Dealing with Difficult Questions

Staff will answer questions as fully as they feel age and stage-appropriate, based on the level of knowledge demonstrated by pupils during the lesson. Staff may ask a pupil to wait for a response to a question if they need time to consult with a colleague, or the school leadership team, to construct an appropriate answer. Staff can refuse to answer a question that they feel is inappropriate. Staff will not answer personal questions about their own body, personal circumstances or lifestyle choices. If a member of staff does not answer a question, the pupil will have the reasons for this decision clearly explained. The staff member will work with the pupil to identify suitable sources of information, where they can safely obtain an answer to their question.

The following ground rules should be adhered to:

- All pupils will be listened to and respected when opinions are passed
- Staff must be aware of different backgrounds, religious and cultural differences.

Equal Opportunities

It is important to us to ensure that all pupils are given equality of opportunity and access to RSE within the curriculum. We will ensure that provision meets the needs of all children respecting pupils' different abilities, level of maturity and personal circumstances, for example faith, culture, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Differentiation in terms of learning objectives, tasks, teaching methods and resources will be planned for children with specific needs.

Safeguarding / Confidentiality

Staff need to be aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue. If staff have any reason to believe a pupil is at risk, they will speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and follow the school's safeguarding procedures. A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.