



## **PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) Policy**

At Aragon Primary School, we believe that **PSHE** helps to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives, in order to become informed, active and responsible citizens.

Under the new guidance issued by the DfE, by September 2020, Relationships Education at primary school will be compulsory. We believe that, to be effective, RSE should always be taught within a broader PSHE education/science curriculum.

**RSE** enhances and is enhanced by learning related to topics including anti-bullying; keeping safe on and off line; keeping physically and mentally healthy, learning about drugs, alcohol and tobacco; and the development of skills and attributes such as communication skills, managing peer pressure, risk management, resilience and decision making. RSE is part of lifelong learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health.

RSE, within PSHE, aims to give children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitive relationships. It enables pupils to explore their own and other's attitudes and values and builds their self-esteem and confidence to view their own sexuality positively. RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

Through these subjects, we want to support all young people to be happy, healthy and safe – we want to equip them for adult life and to make a positive contribution to society.

### **The aims of PSHE and RSE at Aragon are to:**

- Promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils
- Prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life
- Encourage pupils to value themselves and others
- Allow pupils to acknowledge and appreciate difference and diversity
- Teach pupils how to make informed choices
- Prepare pupils to be positive and active members of a democratic society
- Teach pupils to understand what constitutes a safe and healthy lifestyle
- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Promote safety in forming and maintaining relationships
- Provide pupils with a toolkit for understanding and managing their emotions
- Provide pupils with the opportunities to consider issues which may affect their own lives and/or the lives of others



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- Help pupils to identify the characteristics of healthy relationships, how relationships may affect mental and physical health; and how to stay safe online
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

### **Statutory requirements**

At Aragon, we have committed to retain our current choice to continue to teach age-appropriate sex education alongside relationships education. In doing so, we have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State as outlined in Section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils, parents/carers and the governing body. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. This policy was compiled according to National and Local guidance.
2. Staff consultation – The school staff were given the opportunity to **review** the policy and make recommendations.
3. Pupil consultation – We investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE and PSHE lessons via a KS2 pupil survey
4. Ratification – the policy was shared with and reviewed by the Governing Body Standards Committee and approved by the full Governing Body.

### **Delivery of PSHE and RSE**

Some biological aspects of sex education are taught within the science curriculum.

We believe that RSE should meet the needs of all pupils, whatever their developing sexuality or identity – this should include age-appropriate teaching about different types of relationships in the context of the law.

Pupils should receive teaching on LGBT relationships, which is delivered at Aragon, for example, through teaching about different types of family, including those with same-sex parents.

Pupils with SEND as far as is appropriate, should follow the same PSHE education programme as all other students. Careful consideration is given concerning the level of differentiation needed, and in some cases the content or delivery will have to be adapted. Teachers and/or learning support assistants work with individual pupils where required, and if appropriate.



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It is not the school's policy to withdraw pupils with special educational needs from PSHE education to catch up on other national curriculum subjects: these aspects of personal and social development are as important to all pupils as their academic achievement.

Aragon recommends that all children take part in PSHE/RSE lessons but do welcome any enquiries from parents/ carers regarding the content of the lessons and if necessary, parents can withdraw their child. Parents are not permitted to withdraw their child from any aspects of the RSE curriculum that is taught through the Science curriculum.

Date of Policy: June 2022