



Relationships and sex education Education Policy (RSE) - Primary

At Isaac Newton Academy our aim is to equip every student with the knowledge, learning power and character necessary for success at university and beyond. Effective relationships and sex education (RSE) makes a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by students in order to establish and maintain positive, healthy relationships. It enables young people to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.

The RSE Policy at Isaac Newton Primary Academy is based on the principle that SRE involves life-long learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It supports students in forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex and sexuality, relationships and feelings.

RSE is part of the personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum in our Academy. When we inform our pupils through SRE about sexual issues, we do this with regard to morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions. We do not use SRE as a means of promoting any form of sexual orientation.

Learning Outcomes

We teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults
- the way humans reproduce
- respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term, and loving relationship
- the importance of family life
- moral questions
- relationship issues
- respect for the views of other people
- sexual abuse, and what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters.

We teach RSE education on the understanding that:

- it is taught in the context of stable relationships and family life
- it is part of the wider process of social, personal, spiritual and moral education
- children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies
- children should learn about their responsibilities to others, be aware of the consequences of sexual activity
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect

- children need to learn the importance of self-control.

How RSE is taught

At Isaac Newton Primary Academy RSE is taught in our PSHE lessons. We also teach some aspects through other subject area such as Science or PE, which we believe contributes significantly to children's knowledge and understanding of their own bodies, and how they are changing and developing. We ensure that the RSE programme is relevant to all students and is age and stage appropriate. We deal with the content of the RSE programme sensitively and with an awareness of associated religious and cultural issues.

In PSHE, Science, PE and RSE we teach children about relationships, we encourage children to discuss issues. We teach about the parts of the body, and how these work, and we explain what will happen to their bodies during puberty. We encourage the children to ask for help if they need it.

In Science lessons in Key Stage 1, we teach children about how animals, including humans move, feed, grow and reproduce, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body. Children learn to appreciate the fact that people are not all the same, and that we need to respect each other. In Key Stage 2, we teach about life processes, and the main stages of the human life cycle in greater depth.

In upper key stage 2, we place a particular emphasis on health education, as many children experience puberty at this age. We liaise with the Local Health Authority and other agencies about the suitability of materials for children during these lessons. Teachers do their best to answer all questions with sensitivity and care. By the end of Key Stage 2, we ensure that both boys and girls know how babies are born, how children's bodies change during puberty, what menstruation is, and how this affects women. We always teach this with due regard for the emotional development of the children. We arrange opportunities for all parents/ carers of children in upper key stage 2 to discuss this particular programme of lessons, to explain how they are taught and to see the materials that are being used in its teaching.

Partnership with Parents/carers

At Isaac Newton Academy RSE is designed to support and complement the role of parents/carers who have the prime responsibility for their child's sex and relationships education. We wish to build a positive relationship with parents/carers by:

- informing parents/carers about the Academy's RSE policy and practice
- answering any questions that parents/carers may have about the sex education of their child
- taking seriously any issue that parents or carers raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about the arrangements for SRE at Isaac Newton Primary

We believe that through a mutual approach, children will benefit from being given a consistent message about issues relating to RSE. Although we hope that all students will participate, parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from part or all of the sex and relationships education provided. Parents/carers wishing to withdraw their child should make an appointment to see the Primary Headteacher. If, following the meeting, they still wish to withdraw their child; they should put their request in writing, stating which part(s) of the programme they wish to withdraw their child from.

Related Policies

PSHE Policy

RE Policy

Reviewed June 2017