

Relationships and Health Education (RHE)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Will my child be taught sex education at primary? This is too young.

A: We are not introducing compulsory sex education at primary school.

We are introducing Relationships Education at primary, to put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships of all kinds. This will start with family and friends, how to treat each other with kindness, and recognising the difference between online and offline friendships.

Q: Do I have a right to withdraw my child from Relationships and Sex Education?

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at primary as we believe the contents of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught.

Q: Will my child be taught about LGBT relationships?

A: Pupils should be taught about the society in which they are growing up. These subjects are designed to foster respect for others and for difference, and educate pupils about healthy relationships.

Pupils should receive teaching on LGBT content during their school years. Teaching children about the society that we live in and the different types of loving, healthy relationships that exist can be done in a way that respects everyone. Primary schools are strongly encouraged and enabled to cover LGBT content when teaching about different types of families.

Q. Will young children be taught the scientific names of the body parts?

Primary schools will teach the correct scientific names of the sexual body parts in Key Stage 1. The following words are recommended to be taught in Key Stage 1: Penis Vulva Breast / nipples Anus / bottom Testicles Vagina.