

# Primary: Relationships and Health Education (RHE) Policy

This model policy has been created through consulting with:

- Young people's sexual health services
- Parents/Carers              Consultation with over 30 governors who are Newham parents/carers
- LGBT+ community            - Individuals, groups and teachers who identify as LGBT+
- Councilors                  - Briefing and consultation with over 30
- Teachers                    - 80+ attended training, 55+ attended Network Meetings
- Other places                - Birmingham, Redbridge and Tower Hamlets RSE leads
- Governors & trustees    - around 130 attended training at Education Space on RSHE
- Faith groups                - 20 survey monkey responses and meeting held with 30 Imams
- SACRE                      - 19 different individuals representing
  - Muslims                    Sunni and Shia
  - Christians                Catholic and protestant
  - Hindus
  - Buddhists
  - Jews
  - Sikhs
  - Humanists
- Pupils                      - carried out in December with three primary and three secondary schools, involving about 130 pupils
- SEND educational services
- DfE and Ofsted
- Head Teachers including Nursery Head Teachers

Name of school

Person responsible for RSHE in school .....

Signature of head teacher .....

Signature of chair of governors .....

Date ratified by Governors .....

When the policy will be reviewed .....

School Logo

Boroughwide consultation taken place concerning the implementation of the 2020 guidance in RSHE (tick as appropriate)

Pupil s	Parent s/ carers	Communi ty groups	Faith grou ps	Local councilo rs	Teache rs	Ofste d	School governo rs	L A	Professio nal Associa tions

**School consultation taken place concerning the implementation of the 2020 guidance in RSHE**

	Parents/ carers	teachers	School governors
Date			
What we did			

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

It is the intention of Keir Hardie Primary School 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 Keir Hardie Primary School 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.

## **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 Keir Hardie Primary School we acknowledge that parents/carers are a child's first and most effective teacher and so will ensure that we have annual meetings with parents or carers to present our RHE curriculum as well as hear from parents/carers about any concerns or questions they have. We are clear that our aim is to educate pupils about these important subjects alongside parents and carers.

### **National Curriculum 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 sexual and asexual reproduction in mammals and plants.

Additional subject content (see appendices for full list of content)

**There continues to be no right to withdraw from national curriculum science.**

### **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.

See appendices for full list of content.

**There is no right to withdraw from Health Education.**

## **Relationships Education**

The focus in primary schools should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with family members, other children and adults. Lessons will be evidence based, age and culturally appropriate, based in the law and sensitive to the needs of pupils.

Subject content (see appendices for full list of content)

### **There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education**

## **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.

## **Non-statutory RHE**

### **Sex Education that goes beyond national curriculum science**

**The Government and local advisors strongly recommend and Keir Hardie Primary School have decided, after consultation with parents/carers, to teach Sex Education beyond that taught within the science curriculum. The school will be teaching about 'how a baby is conceived and is born' in year (5/6) following on from the national science curriculum, which teaches about sexual reproduction in mammals in year 5. Sex education at Keir Hardie Primary School will be taught by trained staff in an age appropriate and sensitive way and we believe will help to ready children for their move to secondary school.**

### **The right of parents/carers to withdraw their children from non-statutory RSHE**

Parents/carers have a right to withdraw their children from non-statutory RSHE, i.e. 'how a human baby is conceived and is born', following a meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to discuss their concerns. The school will document this process.

## **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. It is expected that our relationships education curriculum will lead to a stronger sense of community, mutual respect and give pupils a sense of

responsibility. This will help, to keep a safe, inclusive and caring place for all, upholding the core values and ethos of the school.

## 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 our RHE curriculum leader Yasmin Begum

### PLANNING AND DIFFERENTIATION

Teachers follow the PSHE programme of study in teaching RHE, where the themes of 'Relationships' and 'Health and Wellbeing' are covered. The lesson plans are adapted and differentiated to be age appropriate and suit the needs of each individual class.

### RECORDING

As in all curriculum areas, records of children's work will be demonstrated through a variety of means including written, artistic, photographic, audio, ICT, role-play, presentations and displays.

### ASSESSMENT

We use assessments to inform and develop our teaching:

- Topics begin with an initial assessment of what children already know through discussions, questioning, knowledge harvests and baseline assessments which are used to determine the levels at which children are working and to inform future planning. This is updated with new learning and serves as both a formative and summative assessment tools.
- We use AfL strategies such as questioning, paired talk, group work, peer and self-assessment, baseline assessments and mini plenaries to support assessment and enhance the learning experience.
- We use feedback on each piece of work positively, making it clear the work is good, and how it could be further improved. This is done through using the four strands of marking identified in our teaching, learning and feedback policy.
- At the end of each term, class teachers use the assessment grids to assess pupils' knowledge and understanding in of the topic(s) taught). Moderation of books, planning and lessons are done by the Humanities team and is used to ensure that teachers' assessments are accurate and precise.
- Target Tracker is then used to track progress and attainment for all pupils
- Learning will be evidenced by work in children's book

### REPORTING

Parents are informed of the progress their child has made in the annual report to parents. During 2 parents evenings throughout the year, parents do have the opportunity to look at their child's book and discuss any concerns or achievements with the class teacher.

### Resources

The school will draw from a number of educational resources such as the PSHE Association (the national body for Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) and the Medway

Public Health Directorate (who have been working with the PSHE Association for a number of years to support teachers to deliver high quality PSHE education as they recognise the potential long-term benefits of supporting positive health-related behaviours from a young age).

We will ensure the resources used will be age specific according to each year group and reflect the diverse nature of the school population and local community. These resources will be reviewed and updated regularly.

It is the role of the RHE subject leader to ensure that resources are appropriate and up to date for the school's use in teaching RHE

## RHE curriculum lead teacher

Any queries about this policy should be addressed to

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*Developed from materials shared with Jo Sell from Tower Hamlets LA and used with permission*

*Approved by: Newham LA; Newham SACRE, NAPNH and NASH*



## **Appendix 1**

### **INTENT**

#### **Information about how and why RHE will be taught at Keir Hardie Primary School.**

Why are we teaching RHE?

- Because it is the right thing to do.  
Our children are growing up in an increasingly complex world with new opportunities, but also new challenges. We as a school want our pupils to flourish in the world they find themselves and to work hard throughout all curriculum areas to give our pupils the skills and knowledge they need to do that. RHE teaching is an important part of equipping our pupils for life in 21<sup>st</sup> century Britain, enabling them to embrace diversity, make the most of technology; understand the importance of, and develop the skills which lead to them being able to sustain healthy and strong relationships.
- Relationships and health education is a statutory requirement for all primary schools in England. The government, Ofsted and local advisors recommend that sex education (how a baby is conceived and born) is also taught in primary school.
- At Keir Hardie Primary School we have decided to teach sex education, 'how babies are conceived and born' because young people tell us that the school is a trusted place where they would like to learn RSHE. (Sell 2019). Also, a recent consultation of secondary school students in Newham has seen 63% of year 10s say that they think that pupils should learn how a baby is made and born at primary school age. We believe that by teaching this topic here, it will help to equip our pupils for the transition to secondary school where they may learn about sex from less reliable sources such as friends or older children in the playground. The decision to teach sex education was taken following consultation with parents/carers and governors.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- The teaching of RHE at Keir Hardie Primary School is informed by the law, national RSHE guidance and the national curriculum set out by the DfE as well as, the school ethos and policies already developed. Below is a list of some of the documents that have been taken into consideration when preparing this policy.
- Statutory Guidance on RSHE 2019

*Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory Guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers*

- Equality Act 2010 and The Public Sector Equality Duty 2014
- School ethos and educational aims.
- The teaching of RHE in Keir Hardie Primary School is delivered within and influenced by all relating school policies
  - Behaviour policy
  - Antibullying policy
  - Equality policy or statement
  - Safeguarding policy
  - PSHE policy
  - Wellbeing policy

How will we ensure lessons are taught sensitively?

- Puberty and menstruation and human reproduction (non-statuary) and birth are seen as sensitive topics to teach and therefore we will put in special measures to make sure that pupils feel at ease when talking about these topics.
- Single sex classes for some lessons/ all lessons so that children feel less self-conscious and students may be more relaxed and feel able to ask questions
- Use of anonymous question boxes
- Same sex teachers for single sex groups
- When will RHE will be taught?
  - RHE will be taught all year round as part of class time
  - Human reproduction will be taught at the end of year six just before the children go to secondary schools.
- How will we ensure communication with parents/carers?
  - Keir Hardie Primary School work with parents/carers and want to communicate what is going on in RHE.
  - As part of the ‘meet and greet’ in September, teachers will share with parents the age appropriate PSHE overview for the academic year. This will include the topics covered under the themes of ‘Relationships’ and ‘Health and Wellbeing’
  - A meeting will be held in the summer term before the ‘Growing and Changing’ unit is taught, so that parents/carers can, if they wish, talk to their children ahead of lessons. This will allow parents/carers to be ready for any questions that their child may have concerning what they have learnt in school.
  - In year six, when sex education (how a baby is made and born), outside of the national curriculum for science, is being taught, a letter will be sent home ahead of the lesson so that parents/carers are aware of what is being taught and in which week. Our intention is to make these lessons as sensitive to the background of all our pupils as possible and our hope is that they will all remain in the lesson so that they learn facts from a teacher or nurse rather than second-hand in the playground. However, the school respects the right of parents/carers to

remove their children from sex education if they wish. Parents/carers who wish to remove their children from sex education need to inform the school in writing, following a meeting with someone from the SLT to discuss concerns, alternative provision can be made for the child. This process will be documented.

- Who will be teaching RHE?
  - The curriculum will be covered by class teachers and supported by support staff and a trained nurse.
- What training will staff be given?
  - RHE lead has attended the borough wide training
  - RHE lead will train all staff at Keir Hardie in the summer term 2020
- What materials will be used to deliver RHE?
  - In Keir Hardie Primary School we have chosen to deliver RHE, using Medway Public Health Directorate in partnership with the PSHE association and Christopher Winters project

## **IMPACT**

Monitoring of the standards of children's work and of the quality of teaching in RHE is the responsibility of the RHE lead and the Humanities team with support from the Senior Leadership Team.

The work of the RHE lead involves supporting colleagues in the planning and teaching of RHE, being informed about current developments in the subject through affiliation to professional bodies such as the DfE and the PSHE Association, and in providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.

The head teacher allocates leadership time to the RHE lead so that they can support planning, model/team teach, review samples of children's work, conduct pupil interviews and undertake lesson observations of science learning and teaching across the school.