

Relationships and Health Education **(RHE)**

Overall Aim

Great Ouse Primary Academy aims to:

- Promote the highest standards of behaviour amongst all members of the community.
- Encourage positive relationships. Where a relationship has broken down, the restorative approach will be used to repair and rebuild the relationship. This should be applied in a positive manner where previous incidences are not referred to and should focus on the way forward.
- Promote spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils within the school and society.
- Help the growth of tolerance, empathy and consideration in members of the school community.
- Prepare pupils to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up.
- Ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the community and the environment in and out of class (including transitioning around the school).
- Be fully inclusive.

PSHE

At Great Ouse Primary Academy, we teach Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity.

The Cambs PSHE Programme offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area.

The overview of the programme can be seen on the school website.

This also supports the "Personal Development" and "Behaviour and Attitude" aspects required under the Ofsted Inspection Framework, as well as significantly contributing to the school's Safeguarding and Equality Duties, the Government's British Values agenda and the SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural) development opportunities provided for our children.

Statutory Relationships and Health Education

"The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving

primary education...They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools. Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education(PSHE) continues to be compulsory in independent schools.”

DfE Guidance p.8

“Today’s children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.”

“This is why we have made Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools in England...as well as making Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools.”

“In primary schools, we want the subjects to put in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online. This will sit alongside the essential understanding of how to be healthy.”

“These subjects represent a huge opportunity to help our children and young people develop. The knowledge and attributes gained will support their own, and others’ wellbeing and attainment and help young people to become successful and happy adults who make a meaningful contribution to society.”

Secretary of State Foreword DfE Guidance 2019 p.4-5

“Schools are free to determine how to deliver the content set out in the DfE guidance 2019 in the context of a broad and balanced curriculum. Effective teaching in these subjects will ensure that core knowledge is broken down into units of manageable size and communicated clearly to pupils, in a carefully sequenced way, within a planned programme of lessons.”

DfE Guidance p.8

“All schools must have in place a written policy for Relationships Education and RSE.”
(GOPA chose not to deliver Sex Education and consulted with parents/carers regarding RHE during Spring Term 2021)

DfE Guidance p.11

Here, at Great Ouse Primary Academy we value PSHE as one way to support children’s development as human beings, to enable them to understand and respect who they are, to empower them with a voice and to equip them for life and learning.

We include the statutory Relationships and Health Education within our whole-school PSHE Programme.

To ensure progression and a spiral curriculum, we use Cambs PSHE, the mindful approach to PSHE, as our chosen teaching and learning programme and tailor it to your children’s needs. The mapping document: Cambs PSHE 3-11 and statutory Relationships and Health Education,

shows exactly how Cambs PSHE and therefore our school, meets the statutory Relationships and Health Education requirements.

This programme's complimentary update policy ensures we are always using the most up to date teaching materials and that our teachers are well-supported.

Roles and Responsibilities

- **Local Governors**

Have continued involvement through policy evaluation.

- **Academy Principal**

Is responsible for the implementation of the policy and liaising with the local governing body, parents and other appropriate agencies. Has a general responsibility for supporting other members of staff in the implementation of this policy and will also disseminate information and provide CPD opportunities relating to RHE.

- **Parents**

The school recognises that the parents are key figures in helping their children to cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up and therefore have responsibility in preparing them for challenges and responsibilities. Parents are encouraged to support the school's RHE policy and have access to this.

- **All Staff**

RHE is a whole school issue. All staff, both teaching and non-teaching, should be aware of this policy and how it relates to them.

Where, When and How?

RHE will be delivered within whole class lesson of PSHE in the children's own classroom by their teacher, or another known and trusted adult. Occasionally an individual child may ask an explicit or difficult question within the classroom. This may be answered individually later. Teachers must use their own skills and discretion in these situations and /or seek support and advice from the Academy Principal or PSHE lead.

Parental Right of Withdrawal

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from the RHE programme in line with the Government guidelines (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education DfE 2019).

Specific Issues

Child Protection

- Children have the right to expect schools to provide a safe and secure environment. Teachers need to be aware that they bring fears or worries into the classroom that affect RHE, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship. RHE lessons may lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue.
- If a member of staff (teaching or non-teaching) suspects there to be child protection issues involving a child, or is faced with a disclosure, then s/he has a duty to pass this information on to the designated child protection member of staff, and use the procedures set out in the schools Child Protection policy. Staff need to make pupils aware they cannot legally give complete confidentiality. This can be tackled by revisiting ground rules at the beginning of each session.

Equality

This policy will inform the school's Equalities Plan.

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p. 15) states, "Schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect.

At the point at which schools consider it appropriate to teach their pupils about LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), they should ensure this content is fully integrated into their programmes of study for this area of the curriculum rather than delivered as a stand-alone unit or lesson. Schools are free to determine how they do this, and we expect all pupils to have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum".

At Great Ouse Primary Academy, we promote respect for all and value every individual child. We also respect the right of our children, their families and our staff, to hold beliefs, religious or otherwise, and understand that sometimes these may be in tension with our approach to some aspects of Relationships and Health Education.

Dissemination and implementation

This policy will be given to all members of the governing body, teaching and non-teaching staff. All parents will be invited to read the document and reference copies will be available from school.

Implementation of the policy

A copy of this policy is provided for each member of staff and each member of the local governing body. Reference copies are available from the website or main office on request for all other persons who come into contact with the children.

Reviewed September 2021

Next Review September 2024