



Salterns Academy Trust

THE SALTERNS ACADEMY TRUST: TRAFALGAR SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) POLICY



Trafalgar

S c h o o l

Learning today, leading tomorrow

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UNCRC

Article 17 - Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

What is Relationship and Sex Education?

Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) is lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It will be age- appropriate, building knowledge and life skills over time in a way that prepares students for issues they will soon face. It will focus on:

- different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships, dealing with strangers and, at secondary school, intimate relationships;
- how to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships, including self-respect and respect for others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent, and how to manage conflict, and also how to recognise unhealthy relationships;
- how relationships may affect health and wellbeing, including mental health;
- healthy relationships and safety online; and
- factual knowledge, at secondary school, around sex, sexual health and sexuality, set firmly within the context of relationships.

Principles and Values

Trafalgar School believes that RSE should:

- be an integral part of the lifelong learning process;
- reflect the schools five core values of respect; community; resilience; aspiration and inclusion;
- be an entitlement for all young people;
- be set within the wider school context and supports family commitment and love, respect and affection, knowledge and openness. Ideals, stereotypes and realities of family life are explored with recognition of the need to value children from all family circumstances. Difference and diversity will be taken into account. Religious and cultural differences will be discussed and respected;
- encourage students and teachers to share and respect each other's views. To become aware, understand and demonstrate tolerance of different approaches to sexual orientation. It will not promote of any particular family structure but place importance on the values of love, respect and care for each other in committed relationships;
- generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on sexual matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment;
- recognise that parents are the key people in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up. We aim to work in partnership with parents and students, consulting them about the content of programmes;
- recognise that the wider community has much to offer and we aim to work in partnership with health professionals, social workers, and other mentors or advisers.

Aims

RSE at Trafalgar School has three main elements:

Attitudes and Values

- learning the importance of values, individual conscience and moral choices;
- learning the value of family life, stable and loving relationships, and marriage;
- learning about the nurture of children;
- learning the value of respect, love and care;
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas;
- developing critical thinking as part of decision-making;
- challenging myths, misconceptions and false assumptions about normal behaviour.

Personal and Social Skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
- developing self-respect and empathy for others;
- learning to make choices with an absence of prejudice;
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- managing conflict;
- empower students with the skills to be able to avoid inappropriate pressures or advances (both as exploited or exploiter).

Knowledge and Understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships;
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services;
- learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay;
- the avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

Provision

Trafalgar School delivers RSE predominantly through PSHCE lessons, Tutor time and Personal Development Days and focusses predominantly on the emotional aspects of development and relationships, although the physical aspects of puberty and reproduction are also included. The Science National Curriculum is delivered by Science teachers. These lessons consider the physical aspects of development and reproduction, although the importance of relationships is not forgotten.

Experienced teachers deliver the PSHCE curriculum with support from the subject leader with external specialists and/or professionals where appropriate. The Science National Curriculum is taught in both Key Stage 3 and 4.

Lessons will take place in a familiar and safe environment and ground rules established before the lessons commence. Teaching will be with mixed sex groups and single sex groups when appropriate. Lessons will emphasise student involvement through teacher-led and class discussion. Teachers will encourage all students to participate by promoting a secure and safe environment. Teachers need to be aware of and respond to, the needs and concerns of individual students. External agency expertise is regularly utilised and is a key feature of RSE delivery at Trafalgar School.

Monitoring and Evaluation

It is the responsibility of the PSHCE Co-ordinator to oversee and organise the monitoring and evaluation of RSE, in the context of the overall school plans for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning. Lessons 'drop in's' and student feedback form a key part in the monitoring and evaluation of RSE.

Parents right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 1 of this policy and addressed to the Headteacher.

A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the student's educational record. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

Alternative work will be given to students who are withdrawn from sex education.

Support for Individual Students

Trafalgar School works closely with external agencies. Referrals for individuals can be made through a referral to the Multi-Agency Support Hub who may make a referral to the Early Help Team who, in turn, can then refer to other agencies for further support.

Confidentiality

All teachers receive regular safeguarding training and are aware that they cannot offer unconditional confidentiality. School staff should not ask leading questions. Any disclosure should be referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Students must be told that their disclosure is going to be passed on and to whom.

References

DfE, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships Education Relationships and Sex Education RSE and Health Education.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)

Appendix 1: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	