

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) POLICY 2024-2025

This is a whole School policy and applies to all members of Copthorne Preparatory School including EYFS.

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1 Introduction

1.1 The aims of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at Copthorne Prep School are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place amongst pupils and staff.
- Prepare pupils for puberty, give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene.
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy.
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships.
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.

1.2 These above aims are embedded and taught within the PSHE Curriculum.

2 Definition

2.1 RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils at Copthorne. It involves learning about relationships, sexual health, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

2.2 RSE involves a combination of sharing information, exploring issues and values.

2.3 RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

3 Curriculum

3.1 The curriculum that is followed at Copthorne Prep School is a programme of study that has been designed to include material from the PSHE Association, SEAL and BBC Active resources. Jigsaw is widely used from Pre-prep through to Year 4. In Year 5 & 6 Jigsaw is also used together with other age-appropriate resources.

3.2 The schemes of work take in account the age, needs and feelings of the child and are age appropriate and reflect the cohort of children we have at Copthorne Prep.

4 Delivery

- 4.1 RSE is taught within the PSHE Curriculum (under the Global Curriculum) and biological aspects of RSE are taught with the science lessons and through specialized assemblies.
- 4.2 Pre-Prep. Relationship education is the Pre-Prep focuses on teaching laying the strong foundations and characteristics that are needed in early years. These include:
- Families and people who care for me.
 - Caring Friendships
 - Respectful Friendships
 - Online Friendships
 - Being Safe
- 4.3 Years 3-6. In the Prep school, RSE focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships and to make informed decisions. These include,
- Families
 - Respecting others' beliefs and ideas
 - Internet Safety
 - Drug Education
 - Sexual Relationships.
- 4.4 All of the above are taught within the context of family life taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers)

5 Staff Responsibility

- 5.1 Staff are responsible for delivering RSE in a sensitive way, modelling positive attitudes, monitoring progress, responding to the needs of the individual child and responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from non-statutory components of RSE.

6 Pupils:

- 6.1 Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

7 Parents' right to withdraw

- 7.1 The school will inform parents of when certain elements are being taught.
- 7.2 Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.
- 7.3 Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within RSE.
- 7.4 Requests for withdrawal need to be made by writing to the Headmaster.

- 7.5 As part of the ongoing review of the RSE policy parents will be consulted during the Summer Term of each academic year. An evening offered to discuss make aware Q & A session with parents prep/pre-prep. IP Lead with LD KM end of spring term