



# Castleford Academy



## Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Version No:	Date Ratified:	Review Date:
2.0	26.09.2019	26.09.2022



## Contents

1. Rationale & Ethos.....	3
2. Roles and Responsibilities.....	3
3. Legislation (statutory regulations & guidance).....	3
4. Curriculum Design.....	4
5. Safe & Effective Practice .....	5
6. Safeguarding .....	5
7. Engaging Stakeholders .....	5
8. Monitoring, Reporting & Evaluation .....	5
Appendix 1 .....	6



## 1. Rationale & Ethos

This policy covers Castleford Academy's approach to Relationships and Sex Education. From September 2020, it is a statutory requirement, as set by the Department of Education, that all secondary school students must be taught RSE. However, for many years, Castleford Academy have championed RSE through our outstanding PSHE provision, and collaboration with Spectrum Community Health.

Castleford Academy believe 'Relationships & Sex Education' to be an essential part of the curriculum, in which we give students the information they need to develop healthy and nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships.

We view the partnership of home and school as vital in providing the care, support and advice needed for students to thrive in modern Britain.

We want to emphasise that effective RSE does not encourage early sexual experimentation. It simply teaches students to understand human sexuality, and to respect themselves and others. It enables young people to mature, build their confidence and self-esteem, and understand the reasons for delaying sexual activity. It builds the knowledge and skills which are needed in order to make informed choices when there are conflicting pressures on young people.

Our academy's overarching aims for our students are that they know how to care for themselves, and others.

We ensure that RSE is inclusive and meets the needs of all our pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and furthermore ensure that RSE fosters gender equality and LGBTQ+ equality by promoting the 'protected characteristics' across the academy through our extensive SMSC & Fundamental British Values programme, which is at the heart of our curriculum.

The intended outcomes of our programme are that all pupils will;

- Know and understand the law regarding sexual relationships.
- Understand that they have a right to feel safe and healthy.
- Understand that they have a responsibility to respect others.
- Develop the skills of critical thinking in order to dispel myths and misconceptions.

## 2. Roles and Responsibilities

The RSE programme will be led by Ms M Page (Head of the Wider Curriculum). It will be taught by teachers and Spectrum Community Health agents during Drop-Down Days, Religious Education lessons, Science lessons, Life & Society lessons and during form time.

The Academy will review current RSE provision in order to meet the needs of our current and future pupils, responding to local and current issues. The academy also welcomes parents/carers to voice their views through the parent/carers survey, or by contacting the academy.

Teaching staff will receive RSE training through staff CPD, to ensure they are equipped with the knowledge to best support the students in their care.

## 3. Legislation (statutory regulations & guidance)

The Department of Education statutory guidance states that from September 2020, all secondary schools must deliver relationships and sex education. The parental right to withdraw pupils from RSE remains in



secondary education, for aspects of sex education which are not part of the Science curriculum. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact the academy.

This RSE policy supports the following policies:

- Education Act (1996)
- Learning & Skills Act (2000)
- Education & Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010)
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21<sup>st</sup> century (2014)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019 +annual updates)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

#### 4. Curriculum Design

Our RSE programme is an integral part of our whole school PSHE education provision and will aim to ensure that pupils:

- develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour.
- to recognise and understand and build healthy relationships.
- be aware of their sexuality and understand human sexuality.
- understand the arguments for delaying sexual activity; understand the reasons for having protected sex.
- understand different types of relationships, including friendships and intimate relationships.
- understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within sexual and pastoral relationships.
- have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others and respect for individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationships they want; communicate effectively.
- have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves and, where they have one, their partner from unintended/unwanted sexually transmitted infections including HIV.
- avoid being exploited or exploiting others.
- avoid being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex.
- how to manage conflict and recognise unhealthy relationships.
- healthy relationships and safety online.
- how relationships may affect health and well-being, including mental health.
- access confidential sexual health advice, support and if necessary treatment.
- know how the law applies to sexual relationships.

Our RSE programme is inclusive of all the protected characteristics and is matched to the needs of our pupils by ensuring it is age-appropriate at each key stage.

Our RSE programme will be planned and delivered through Science, Religious Education and Life & Society lessons, form time and Drop-Down Days, and will be taught through a range of teaching methods and interactive activities, including discussions (executed in a sensitive manner), studying the media, dispelling myths and misconceptions, providing information leaflets, and signposting. The selected resources are used to support and promote understanding with a moral context, and therefore underpin our core value of care. Lessons are differentiated by ability and age group to ensure all students are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences in later life. High quality resources support our RSE provision, and are regularly reviewed during the working-group meetings.

Pupils will be encouraged to reflect on their own learning by self-assessing at the start and end of a topic to demonstrate an established starting point, and the progress they have made against this.



*An overview of the learning in each year group can be found in Appendix 1.*

## **5. Safe & Effective Practice**

Teachers and pupils will agree ground rules in accordance to the academy's three universal rules; ready, respect and safe to ensure a professional and positive learning environment. Content is delivered in a non-judgmental, factual way and allows scope for young people to ask questions, those questions will be answered in a sensitive manner.

## **6. Safeguarding**

Teachers are aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. Teachers, visitors & external agencies will follow the normal safeguarding procedures if such issues arise.

## **7. Engaging Stakeholders**

We are committed to parents and carers by providing their child with an outstanding RSE curriculum, with care and respect at its core. Parents will be informed of the policy through the website, if a printed version is needed please contact the academy. Parents will be asked to comment on RSE through the parent survey.

The parental right to withdraw pupils from RSE remains in secondary education, for aspects of sex education which are not part of the Science curriculum. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact the academy. Governors are informed of the RSE policy and curriculum through regular governors meetings and CPD.

Pupil voice is often required to review and tailor our RSE programme to match the different needs of pupils and emerging current issues.

## **8. Monitoring, Reporting & Evaluation**

Teachers will critically reflect on the impact of their work in delivering RSE through subject CPD, lesson observation and self-evaluation. Pupils will have opportunities to review and reflect on their learning through effective questioning during lesson time, and self-assessment. We also welcome pupil voice, as we believe it is influential in adapting and amending planned learning activities. This can be via our Student Leadership Team, student audits, lesson time or Drop-Down Day evaluations.



## Appendix 1 – RSE Curriculum Content

### Year 7

**RE** – Gender Equality.

**PSHE** – Puberty, Positive Choices, Mental Health & Caring for Others.

**Science** – Puberty, Reproductive Systems, the Menstrual Cycle, Fertilisation, Pregnancy, Contraception.

### Year 8

**RE** – Healthy Relationships, Infertility, LGBTQ+ Rights, Family Life, Marriage & Divorce.

**PSHE** – Healthy Relationships, Consent, Resilience, Peer Pressure, Anti-Bullying Fertility, LGBTQ+ Rights, Marriage & Divorce.

### Year 9

**RE** – Love

**PSHE** – Healthy Relationships, Legalities, Self-Care Checks, Contraception, Abuse, Body Image, LGBTQ+ Rights, E-Safety, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Mental Health.

**Science** – Infection & Response (STI's), The Menstrual Cycle, Contraception, Hormones & Fertility.

### Year 10

**RE** – Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation, Honour Based Violence, LGBTQ+ Rights, Miscarriage & Fertility.

**PSHE** – Contraception & STI's, Child Sexual Exploitation.

**Science** – Infection & Response (STI's), The Menstrual Cycle, Contraception, Hormones & Fertility.

### Year 11

**RE** – Abortion.

**PSHE** – Contraception, Teenage Parents.

**Science** – STI's, Contraception, Hormones & Fertility.

### Post 16

**PSHE** – Contraception, STI's, LGBTQ+ Rights, E-Safety, Domestic Abuse, Pornography, Female Genital Mutilation & Honour Based Violence, Abortion, Personal Hygiene & Self-Care Checks.