

Future steps- FAQs:

Why is RSE being taught in primary school?

We want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe, and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. That is why, from this academic year (2020-2021), primary age children will be taught Relationships and Health Education.

These subjects are designed to equip your child with knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as preparing them for a successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when this curriculum was last updated – these changes bring the content into the 21st century, so that it is relevant for your child.

Why is it important for RSE to be taught in schools and not just at home?

Schools are required to comply with relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010. As part of this process, we teach pupils a range of different topics that can build mutual respect between their peers; these topics have been embedded into the RSE curriculum.

High quality RSE ensures children and young people are equipped with the knowledge, understanding, skills and confidence to cope with the many pressures and challenges of modern society. Learning about friendships and family in RSE are the building blocks to help children to understand themselves and others in their school environment.

How does RSE take into consideration my child's faith and religious background?

The UK is home to a variety of religious groups. This is reflected in the number and diversity of faith schools and schools serving diverse communities. The new legislation will make RSE, relationships education and health education mandatory in all schools, including faith schools; therefore, there is no discriminatory impact on religious groups in terms of access to the subjects.

RSE is designed to educate and empower pupils with the knowledge to become respectful and educated citizens.

What can I withdraw my child from in the RSE curriculum?

RSE will be a statutory requirement from the academic year 2020-2021 therefore pupils cannot be withdrawn from lessons.

Parents and carers are however entitled to:

- a safe and supportive environment for your children
- information on how and when RSE is taught
- be informed about issues of confidentiality and how it affects you and your children
- have your views and ideas received in a respectful, non-judgemental manner

Why is my child being taught about different family structures?

At Elsley Primary School, our values are Learning, Sharing, Achieving and Respecting. These values are embedded thoroughly throughout the RSE curriculum. As part of this process, we teach pupils a range of different topics that can build mutual respect between their peers which also allows pupils to respect different people's way of living. Teachers do not promote any particular way of living but rather provide an opportunity for pupils to discuss the changing world in the 21st century.

What year will science aspects of bodily changes be taught as part of the RSE curriculum?

Pupils will not be taught any additional aspects of sex education other than those stated in the science curriculum. Aspects from the science national curriculum include the following and are taught only in Year 5 & 6:

- Year 5 - Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- Year 6- How a baby is conceived

Learning resources that are used for these lessons can be found on the Elsley Primary School website on the RSE curriculum page.

How will my child be taught and where can I find out more information about what topics my child will be taught?

RSE is taught as an embedded part of the PSHE curriculum by, following a spiral planned programme of work. It gradually expands and enriches key concepts, increases knowledge, deepens understanding, and rehearses and develops key skills through a thematic approach. While we carry out the main RSE in our PSHE curriculum, we also do some RSE through the statutory science curriculum and other subject areas, such as PE and Computing.

There is a whole school PSHE overview for Years 1-6 that can be found at the end of the RSE policy. A separate copy of the PSHE overview has now been uploaded on the Elsley Primary school website on the RSE curriculum page for easier accessibility.

How can I discuss my concerns about the RSE curriculum in further detail?

Parents have been invited to an online meeting on Thursday March 18th 2021.