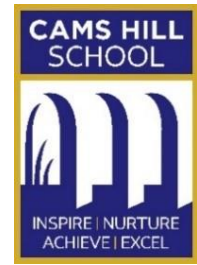


CAMS HILL SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS & SEX EDUCATION POLICY



Statutory

Date Created: 4 November 2019

(Replacing Sex & Relationships Education Policy – created 28 March 2007)

Review Period: 2 Years

Last Reviewed: 19 September 2023

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Next Review Date: 19 September 2025

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Relationships and Sex Education Policy (November 2023)

At Cams Hill School, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is a vital part of the educational entitlement of all pupils and plays an integral part in preparing pupils for adulthood. It is recognised that parents and carers are the prime educators for children on many of these matters, and the work of the school is to complement and reinforce this role, as part of our wider responsibility to foster pupil wellbeing and develop resilience and character.

The aim of RSE is to give young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships. It should enable them to know what a healthy relationship looks like and what makes a good friend, a good colleague, and a successful partner in marriage or other type of committed relationship. It should also cover contraception, developing intimate relationships and resisting pressure to have sex (and not applying pressure). It should teach what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in relationships. This will help pupils understand the positive effects that good relationships have on their mental wellbeing, identify when relationships are not right and understand how such situations can be managed.

Relationships and Sex Education encompasses learning about different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships, dealing with strangers, and intimate relationships. There is a focus on how to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships, including self-respect and respect for others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent, how to manage conflict, and also how to recognise unhealthy relationships. Pupils will understand how relationships may affect health and wellbeing, including mental health, how to maintain healthy relationships and safety online. Relationships and Sex Education also delivers factual knowledge around sex, sexual health and sexuality, set firmly within the context of relationships.

RSE plays a vital part in meeting schools' safeguarding obligations. Ofsted is clear that schools must have a preventative programme that enables pupils to learn about safety and risks in relationships. Schools maintain a statutory obligation under the Children Act (2004) to promote their pupils' wellbeing and, under the Education Act (1996), to prepare children and young people for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life. A comprehensive RSE programme can have a positive impact on pupils' health and wellbeing and their ability to achieve, and can play a crucial part in meeting the school's statutory obligations.

Subject Content and Delivery

The content to be delivered is specified in the statutory guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education published by the Department for Education (published 25 June 2019, last updated 13 September 2021).

Coordinating RSE delivery is the responsibility of the Curriculum Leaders of Key Stage 3 PSHE, and Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship, line managed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Some aspects of RSE content are taught in Science, Religious Studies, English, Drama, PE, and ICT. Most aspects are taught as part of Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education (PSHE). PSHE which is delivered in timetabled lessons during Key Stages 3 and 4. The PSHE Curriculum is planned by the Curriculum Leaders of Key Stage 3 PSHE and Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship to ensure the delivery of all statutory content in an age and context appropriate way.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Those topics which are taught in PSHE lessons will be monitored and evaluated by the Curriculum Leaders of Key Stage 3 PSHE, and Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship, and the SLT Line Manager, with the support of Year Teams, designated PSHE teachers and the SENDCo. Monitoring will be used to ensure that the required topics are being delivered in a way which is appropriate to the age and ability of pupils. Topics delivered through other lessons will be monitored using the whole school monitoring of Teaching for Learning by Curriculum Leaders and SLT. The efficacy of the RSE delivered will be evaluated by the Curriculum Leaders of Key Stage 3 PSHE, and Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship, and the SLT Line Manager through a range of means, drawing on information from the Quality Assurance process, including pupil voice, as well as subject audits.

Parental Right to Withdraw Pupils from Sex Education

As part of Cams Hill School's commitment to working closely with parents and carers, parent/carer views will be sought on a regular basis regarding the content and delivery of Relationships and Sex Education as part of the wider remit of the PSHE curriculum. It is hoped that this partnership between the school and parents/carers will ensure the successful participation of all pupils in all aspects of Relationships and Sex Education.

Parents/carers have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE. Any requests should be addressed in writing to the SLT Line Manager for PSHE, outlining clearly the reason for withdrawal. Before granting any request, the Headteacher or SLT Line Manager for PSHE should discuss the request with parents/carers and, as appropriate, with the child, to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum.

A discussion should be held between the parent/carer and the SLT Line Manager for PSHE and the Curriculum Leader of Key Stage 3 PSHE or the Curriculum Leader of Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship to ensure that the pupil continues to receive relationships education. A record will be kept of all pupils who are withdrawn from sex education and the reasons for this.

Except in exceptional circumstances, the school should respect the parent/carer's request to withdraw the child from sex education up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms. If a pupil is excused from sex education, it is the school's responsibility to ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education. Pupils will not be withdrawn from education delivered as part of the statutory Science curriculum.

Accessibility of Content

As part of the Cams Hill School's requirement to comply with relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010, the school must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership, or sexual orientation. As such, the school will make reasonable adjustments for pupils where the need arises.

Curriculum Leaders of Key Stage 3 PSHE, and Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship will work closely with the SENDCo to ensure that all pupils are able to access the Relationships and Sex Education programme.

Where needed, some content may be delivered in separate sessions or at a different time, appropriate to the needs of individual pupils as identified by the school, in cooperation with parents/carers.

Relationships and Sex Education is planned and delivered taking into account the religious background of all pupils. Roughly 50% of Cams Hill School pupils report having 'no religion', and the majority of the remaining pupils are from Christian traditions. It is to be noted that the purpose of Relationships and Sex Education is to equip pupils to make informed decisions on safe and appropriate relationships, and reflects British Law.

The Curriculum Leaders of Key Stage 3 PSHE, and Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship will also work closely with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) to identify individuals or groups of pupils who may be in need of particular interventions with regards to Relationships and Sex Education. These interventions will be planned jointly by the Curriculum Leaders of Key Stage 3 PSHE, and Key Stage 4 PSHE and Citizenship and the DSL.

Links with Other Policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Child Protection Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- ICT Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Visiting Speaker Policy