

# **WALTHAMSTOW MONTESSORI SCHOOL**

## **Relationships and Sex Education Policy**

### **1. Aims**

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Help pupils to understand about the importance of health, hygiene and self care.
- 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

### **2. Statutory requirements**

As a school we must provide relationships education to all pupils as per section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

We do not have to follow the National Curriculum but we are expected to offer all pupils a curriculum that is similar to the National Curriculum including requirements to teach science.

At Walthamstow Montessori School we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

### **3. Policy development**

The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

- Staff consultation – school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations.
- Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to respond to published information/document and policy.
- Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared and ratified.

### **4. Definition**

RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and

personal identity.

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

RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

## **5. Curriculum**

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, taking into account the age, needs and feelings of pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

## **6. Delivery of RSE**

RSE is taught within the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects may be included in Religious Education (RE).

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

## **7. Roles and responsibilities**

### **7.2 The Head of School / Principal ???**

The Head of School is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of RSE.

### **7.3 Staff**

- Teaching staff are responsible for:
- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory components of RSE.

### **7.4 Pupils**

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

## 8. Training

Staff will be trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The **Head of School** ?? will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

## 9. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by individual **Head of School** through:

- Learning Walks
- Annual School Review

**This policy will be reviewed on a bi-annual cycle or in the event of updated statutory guidance.**

**Signed (Principal):**

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**Signed (Senior member of school staff):**

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**Signed (Parent Representative):**

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Date signed:

Date to be reviewed: 1/9/2024