



Huxlow Academy

Ambition • Respect • Pride

Policy Owner	Department	Effective Date	Approval Date	Review Cycle	Revision Due Date
Zoë Correa	Personal Development	June 2023	July 2023	Bi-annual	June 2025

RELATIONSHIPS, SEX AND HEALTH EDUCATION (RSHE) POLICY

Policy Approver: Academy Improvement Board

Version Control

Version Number	Date of Change	Changes Made
1.1	11/01/2018	Updated to new Policy layout
	11/01/2018	Policy re-written in accordance with latest guidelines
	21/01/20	Policy amended in accordance with latest RSE guidance. This is a draft prior to wider consultation
	25/02/2021	Policy amended in accordance with the results of the consultation (Appendix 4)
	10/05/2021	Policy amended in accordance with the results of the consultation in body of text
1.2	25/06/2023	Inclusion of Huxlow Vision, Mission and Values
	25/06/2023	Policy amended in accordance with 'forbidding the promotion of partisan political views'
	25/06/2023	Change of RSE to RSHE with reference made

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1. Policy Name

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Policy

2. Policy Aims

Huxlow Academy aims to ensure that the school:

- Provides a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Gives appropriate information and effective guidance on sex, sexuality and sexual health
- Prepares students for puberty, and gives them an understanding of sexual, moral and emotional development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Understands the importance of family life and stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care
- Helps students develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Creates a positive culture around sexuality and relationships
- Teaches students the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

OUR VISION

At Huxlow Academy we create the opportunities to enable everyone that walks through our doors to ultimately achieve our vision of “Thriving Through Excellence”

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to achieve this by building a learning community of aspirational and responsible citizens.

To fulfil our mission we work, study and collaborate by placing a focus on three core values.

AMBITION -

We strive hard to achieve the very best in all that we do, and we celebrate achievement and excellence. We enable our students to fulfil their academic and personal purpose.

RESPECT -

We pride ourselves on being a school that fosters relationships in an atmosphere built upon empathy, mutual respect, dignity, equity, diversity and fairness.

PRIDE -

Pride in all we do, both from within school and across the wider community, is at the core of our actions. Our students go on to become successful adults and we enable our students to develop the pride and character we need them to have in the future.

Our RSHE curriculum is built around these core values and our vision and mission. This is evidenced in our planning and evaluation of the curriculum.

DEFINITION

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is about the emotional, social and cultural development of students, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

The Health Education and the Relationships and Sex Education aspects of PSHE are now compulsory in all secondary schools. This will be referenced as RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education).

RSHE involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values.

RSHE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

3. Legislation and statutory guidance

As a secondary academy we must provide RSHE to all pupils as per section 34 of the Children and Social work act 2017.

In teaching RSHE, we are required by our funding agreement to have regard to guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

At Huxlow Academy we teach RSHE as set out in this policy.

4. Policy Development

The government has issued new guidance around the teaching of RSHE from September 2020. This formalises the expectations around what should be taught in KS3 and KS4.

As part of this change Huxlow Academy conducted consultation with staff, pupils and parents in order to develop this RSHE policy by early 2021. The consultation and policy review process has involved the following steps:

1. Review- the policy owner has pulled together all relevant information including national and local guidance.
2. Staff consultation – all school staff have been given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations – a remote training session to enable discussion took place.
3. Parents/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested partners were invited to attend a meeting about the policy. See Appendix 4
4. Pupil consultation – the academy investigated exactly what pupils wanted from their RSHE: summer term 2021 through evaluations.
5. Ratification – once amendments have been made, the policy will be shared with the Academy Improvement Board and ratified.

5. Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt it where necessary.

We will review and develop the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff.

The current curriculum takes 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 are less likely to seek answers online.

6. Delivery of RSHE

RSHE is taught within a designated period of study, as part of the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. This is delivered by form tutors in a 50-minute period per week.

The themes of PSHE are: 'Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World'. These run as two half terms per theme. Biological aspects are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious studies (RS).

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by trained health professionals.

RSHE focuses on giving young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds including:

- Families
- Respectful relationships, including friendships
- Online and media safety
- Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

For more information about our RSHE curriculum, See Appendices 1 and 2.

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life, taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of pupils based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBTQ+ parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst other structures) along with reflecting sensitively that some pupils may have a different structure of support around them (for example looked after children or young carers).

Political Impartiality

It is a legal duty for all staff and schools to refrain from promoting partisan political views, including in the teaching of RSHE. In understanding this, 'partisan' is referred to as one-sided and 'political views' are those expressed with a political purpose. In terms of RSHE, there will be impartiality regarding the use of campaign groups, external organisations, and charitable organisations, whilst we will not support or use those who pertain to expressing a political purpose in their message. All members of staff must also adhere to this guidance and remain impartial when delivering content.

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 THE ACADEMY IMPROVEMENT BOARD

The Academy Improvement Board will approve the RSHE policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

7.2 THE HEADTEACHER

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSHE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdrawn students from non-statutory/non-science components of RSHE (see section 8)

7.3 STAFF

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSHE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSHE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual students
- Responding appropriately to students whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory/non-science components of RSHE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSHE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSHE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher.

7.4 PUPILS

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

8. Parents right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory/non-science components of sex education within RSHE up to and until 3 half terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the pupil wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school will arrange this.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in appendix 3 and addressed to the headteacher.

A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the student's educational record. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

Alternative work will be given to students who are withdrawn from sex education.

9. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSHE as part of their PSHE delivery and are supported by Assistant Headteacher in charge of Character and Personal Development, the Subject Lead for PSHE and Heads of Year.

The Assistant Headteacher and Subject Lead will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professional, to provide support to staff teaching RSHE.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSHE is monitored by the Senior Leadership Team through:

- Developmental Drop Ins (learning walks)
- Staff and student voice

Pupils' development in RSHE is monitored by the form/class teacher as part of our internal assessment systems.

11. Related policies

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Whistle-blowing Policy, Behaviour Policy, Antibullying Policy, E-Safety Policy, Anti-Harassment Policy, Complaints Procedures, Special Educational Needs Policy, Looked After Children Policy, Sex & Relationships Policy, Public Equality Duty, Science National Curriculum syllabus, Citizenship duties, PSHE and Religious Studies schemes of work.



Signed
Chair, Academy Improvement Board

5 July 2023

Date.....