

# Banwell Primary School Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

Date Ratified: 23rd January 2025

Signed By: Alex Clark On behalf of School Governors

Signed by:

Headteacher

Review Date: January 2027

Amendment History		
Version	Reason for amendment	Date



## Our curriculum

Our curriculum aims/intends to:

- Provide opportunities to explore a range of values, attitudes, beliefs, rights and responsibilities.
- Be child-focused, responding and tailored to the needs of the child.
- Allow teachers to enjoy building a relationship with their class, getting to know them better as unique human beings.

At Banwell Primary School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people. Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is an integral part of this curriculum. We currently deliver the PHSE and RSHE curriculum using the JIGSAW programme. Jigsaw's programme of study covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase including statutory Relationships, Sex and Health Education. The Jigsaw Programme offers us a comprehensive scheme of work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning. The learning is split into six main themes throughout the year which take place at the same time in each year group. These themes are as follows:

- 1) Being me in my world
- 2) Celebrating Difference
- 3) Dreams and Goals
- 4) Healthy Me
- 5) Relationships
- 6) Changing Me

Our PSHE and RSHE curriculum focuses on the skills, attitudes and knowledge that will enable children to keep themselves safe, develop awareness of their thoughts, feelings and responsibilities.

#### **Definition of RSHE**

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.



Belong Believe Achieve

## Our PSHE policy

Our PSHE policy is informed by the following existing DfE guidance:

• Keeping Children Safe in Education (statutory guidance)

• Respectful School Communities: Self Review and Signposting Tool (a tool to support a whole

school approach that promotes respect and discipline)

• Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (advice for schools, including advice for appropriate

behaviour between pupils)

- Equality Act 2010 and schools
- SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years (statutory guidance)
- Alternative Provision (statutory guidance)
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools (advice for schools)

• Preventing and Tackling Bullying (advice for schools, including advice on cyberbullying)

• Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools (advice for schools)

• The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance (provides advice on

avoiding discrimination in a variety of educational contexts)

4

• Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (guidance for maintained

schools on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and

cultural (SMSC)

• SMSC requirements for independent schools (guidance for independent schools on how they

should support pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development)

## **Relationships Education**

The teaching of relationships education is statutory for all pupils. Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is lifelong learning about physical, moral, social, cultural and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of positive relationships and of respect, love and care. Within this context, it will also involve learning about sex and sexual health at an age appropriate stage of children's development. Relationships Education in primary schools will cover 'Families and people who care for me', 'Caring friendships', 'Respectful relationships', 'Online relationships', and 'Being safe'. It is important to understand that whilst the Relationships Puzzle (unit) in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Relationships Education, some of the outcomes are also taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. the Celebrating Difference Puzzle helps children appreciate that there are many types of family composition and that each is important to the children involved. This holistic approach ensures that key learning is reinforced through the year.



# Health Education

The teaching of health education is statutory for all pupils. Health Education in primary schools will cover 'Mental wellbeing', 'Internet safety and harms', 'Physical health and fitness', Healthy eating', 'Drugs, alcohol and tobacco', 'Health and prevention', 'Basic First Aid', 'Changing adolescent body'. It is important to explain that whilst the Relationships Puzzle (unit) in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Relationships Education, some of the outcomes are also taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. the Celebrating Difference Puzzle helps children appreciate that there are many types of family composition and that each is important to the children involved. This holistic approach ensures the learning is reinforced through the year and across the curriculum.

Teaching children about puberty is now a statutory requirement which sits within the Health Education part of the DfE guidance within the 'Changing adolescent body' strand, and in PSHE (Jigsaw) this is taught as part of the Changing Me Puzzle (unit 6). This is done based on age-appropriateness, for example puberty is not taught in Key Stage One, whereas we do explore how we change from babies to now.

# Sex Education

The teaching of sex education is non-statutory – parents have the right to withdraw for some or all of this part of the curriculum that is taught through PSHE. The DfE Guidance 2019 (p.23) recommends that all primary schools 'have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. However, 'Sex Education is not compulsory in primary schools'. (p. 23) Sex education 'should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born'.

At Banwell Primary School we split our mixed age classes for the Sex Education lessons and these are taught solely on a year group basis.

#### The Right to Withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of RSHE i.e. sex education. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education.

Before withdrawing, parents are encouraged to talk to the class teacher and it is possible to ask to view the teaching resources in order to inform any decisions regarding withdrawing their child. At Banwell Primary School, the whole school teaches the Sex Education units of Jigsaw at the same time of year. Before any Sex Education discussions or lessons take place, parents will be given notice by the



school. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the Headteacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. If a child is withdrawn from the Sexual Education lessons, alternative work will be provided for the child to complete in a different location within the school grounds.

#### Monitoring and review

As a school, we are committed to monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of our PSHE programme. This will be achieved through:

- pupil voice feedback
- staff reviews and feedback
- parental comments
- academy networking
- updates from the JIGSAW programme

#### Equality and Safeguarding

#### Equality:

The DfE Guidance 2019 (p. 15) states, "Schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect. Schools must ensure they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010 under which sexual orientation and gender reassignment are amongst the protected characteristics. At the point at which schools consider it appropriate to teach their pupils about LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), they should ensure this content is fully integrated into their programmes of study for this area of the curriculum rather than delivered as a stand-alone unit or lesson. Schools are free to determine how they do this, and we expect all pupils to have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum".

At Banwell Primary Primary School, we promote respect for all and value every individual child. We also respect the right of our children, their families and our staff, to hold beliefs, religious or otherwise, and understand that sometimes these may be in tension with our approach to some aspects of Relationships, Health and Sex Education.

#### Safeguarding:

Teachers are aware that sometimes disclosures may be made during Jigsaw lessons; in which case, safeguarding procedures will be followed immediately. Sometimes it is clear that certain children may need time to talk one-to-one after the lesson closes. It is important to allow the time and appropriate. If disclosures occur, the school's disclosure and/or confidentiality policy is followed.