



Primary Relationships and Health Education (RHE) Policy

School Name: Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary

Date policy was approved: 13.03.2025

Review date: March 2026

Job title of person(s) responsible for overseeing this policy: Sarah Jane Bellerby

Job title of person(s) writing this policy: Sarah Jane Bellerby

Aim:	The main aims of our school RHE policy are:				
	Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary is committed to putting safeguarding at				
	the heart of everything we do, and this includes teaching RHE to pupils.				
	2. To teach RHE as outlined by the Department of Education and comply				
	with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010.				
	3. To ensure pupils are able to keep themselves safe by teaching factually				
	accurate information so they can make informed decisions.				
	4. Children understand the changes to their body as they grow and				
	develop and are supported to behave in a mature and responsible way.				
Context	"Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly				
	complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This				
	presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and				
	risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to				
	be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and				
	social lives in a positive way."				
	(Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education: Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers (2019) –				



Secretary of State Foreword, Pg. 4 -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships_Education__Relationships_and_Sex_Education__RSE__and_Health_Education.pdf)

CURRICULUM PROVISION and CONTENT

Relationships	Families And People Who Care For Me				
Education	Caring Relationships				
(Statutory)	Respectful Relationships				
	Online Relationships				
	Being Safe				
	(please refer to Appendix 1 for further detail)				
	(Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education -				
	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-				
	and-health-education)				
Health	Mental Wellbeing				
Education	Internet and Safety Harms				
(Statutory)	Physical Health and Fitness				
	Healthy Eating				
	Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco				
	Health and Prevention				
	Basic First Aid				
	Changing Adolescent Body				
	(please refer to Appendix 1 for further detail)				
	(Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education -				
	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education)				
National	Key Stage 1:				
Curriculum	 identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and 				
Science	say which part of the body is associated with each sense.				
(Statutory)	notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into				
	adults				



 describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

Key Stage 2:

Year 5

· describe the changes as humans develop to old age

Year 6

 recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

From the DfE guidance:

Puberty

"The content set out in this guidance covers everything that primary schools should teach about relationships and health, including puberty. The national curriculum for science also includes subject content in related areas, such as the main external body parts, the human body as it grows from birth to old age* (including puberty) and reproduction in some plants and animals".

"106. At key stages 1 and 2, the national curriculum for science includes teaching about the main external parts of the body and changes to the human body as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty"

(please refer to Appendix 1 for further detail)

(Statutory guidance - National curriculum in England: science programmes of study – Updated 6 May 2015 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-science-programmes-of-study/)

Sex Education

(Non-

- How a baby is conceived and born (DfE recommend in Year 6)
- FGM

(please refer to Appendix 1 for further detail)



Statutory)	(Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education -
	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-
	health-education)

MONITORING, EVALUATION and ASSESMENT

Monitoring	The subjects will be monitored and evaluated by Sarah Jane Bellerby. It is				
and	important these subjects are consistently monitored to ensure confidence				
Evaluation	levels of teachers are maintained and the delivery and content is consistent				
	across the school.				
Assessment	The school will identify pupils' prior knowledge by carrying out pre				
	assessments and using teacher knowledge from observations and				
	formative assessments of pupils.				
	The school will assess pupils' learning and progress through the 'Jigsaw'				
	assessment tool.				
	The school will evidence pupils' learning and progress by having a whole				
	class floor book.				

THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

No Right	There is no parental right to withdraw from Relationships Education, Health			
to	Education or the National Curriculum Science as these are a statutory part of			
Withdraw	the curriculum			
Right to	Parents have the right to withdraw from topics taught outside of these areas			
Withdraw	and relating to Sex Education, for example, how a baby is conceived and			
	born.			
Withdrawal	Parents wishing to withdraw their child from the non-statutory elements of			
Process	Sex Education will need to make an appointment to meet with the			



Headteacher or a member of SLT. Letters will not be accepted as a means of withdrawing a pupil and an individual meeting will need to be held, to discuss parent's concerns.

EQUALITY and SAFEGUARDING

	U SAFEGUARDING				
Equality	The school is committed to following the Equality Act and to tackling sexism,				
	misogyny, homophobia and gender stereotypes.				
LGBT	Mulberry Schools Trust recommends teaching about LGBT relationship				
	the context of different types of families, in order that children coming from				
	same sex families feel welcomed and included in school, from the very				
	beginning of their school career, in Key Stage 1. It is also important in terms				
	of tackling homophobic behaviour and bullying and demonstrates LBTH's				
	commitment to equalities, as outlined in the Equality Act.				
	At Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary we are committed to protecting children				
	and families against discrimination, whether knowing or unintentional. This				
	includes discrimination against people's religion, culture or sexuality, to				
	name just a few of the Protected Characteristics in the Equality Act. The				
	Department for Education statutory guidance strongly encourages and				
	enables schools to teach LGBT content, in the context of different types of				
	families.				
	At Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary we have chosen to follow the LBTH				
	recommendation with regards to LGBT content, in the context of				
	different types of families. With due regard to all relevant evidence we have				
	chosen to place LGBT content, in the context of different types of families,				
	into the statutory part of the curriculum in Key Stage 1 (by the end of Year				
	2).				



Pupils will also be taught about stable, caring, healthy family life and friendships and how to recognise if or when relationships are making them unhappy or unsafe. Lessons will cover staying safe both online and offline, how to identify risks online, harmful online content and contact and how to report it. Pupils will also learn how to seek help and advice from others.

Naming of the Sexual Body Parts

Mulberry Schools Trust recommends that children are taught in Key Stage 1 about naming of the sexual body parts, as a safeguarding issue. This is so pupils can report abuse if it happens or so that they can accurately report medical symptoms if they are unwell. The more children are able to name the sexual body parts and to know about appropriate and inappropriate touch, the more they are protected from abuse.

Pupils will also be taught about stable, caring, healthy family life and friendships and how to recognise if or when relationships are making them unhappy or unsafe. Lessons will cover staying safe both online and offline, how to identify risks online, harmful online content and contact and how to report it. Pupils will also learn how to seek help and advice from others.

Mulberry Schools Trust also recommends that lessons about puberty begin in Year 4, to prepare children for puberty and menstruation for girls, before it occurs.

At Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary, we have chosen to place the naming of the sexual body parts into the **statutory part of the (Relationships Education / Science) curriculum in Key Stage 1** (by the end of Year 2).

The following words are recommended to be taught in Key Stage 1:

- Penis
- Vulva
- Breast / Nipples
- Anus / Bottom



	Testicles
	Vagina
SEND	The delivery of the content will be made accessible to all pupils, including
	those with SEND.
Disclosures	Any disclosures should follow the schools agreed safeguarding procedures.

RESOURCES

Teaching	Mulberry Wood Wharf is committed to using diagrams, rather than pictures,				
Resources	and where appropriate and possible to teach single sex lessons. Our sch				
	is also committed to holding information meetings to show parents resources				
	and lesson plans before the commencement of RHE lessons.				
	The school will use the following teaching resources:				
	- Jigsaw				
	- NSPCC (PANTS)				

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Parents	Our relationship with parents/carers is very important and we are committed					
	to consulting and discussing with parents our RHE curriculum content,					
	including resources, where they can share any concerns or issues they may					
	have about any aspect of the RHE provision.					
Staff	The school encourages staff to contribute and support this RHE policy. The					
	school holds staff meetings and training on RHE to ensure that all staff feel					
	confident to deliver this content.					
Governors	Governors, in conjunction with the Headteacher and SLT, ultimately make					
	the decision about whether to follow the Borough recommendations about					



which topics should be taught and at what stage in the curriculum and whether they should be in the statutory or non-statutory part of the curriculum. Governors also decide which resources are used to teach RHE and how RHE is taught within the school.

The DfE RHE guidance (2019) provides further clarification as to the role of Governors:

"As well as fulfilling their legal obligations, the governing boards or management committee should also make sure that:

- all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes;
- the subjects are well led, effectively managed and well planned;
- the quality of provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation;
- teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND clear information is provided for parents on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn; and
- the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures that the school can fulfil its legal obligations."

(Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education: Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers (2019) – Secretary of State Foreword, Pg. 16 -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relation_ships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)



APPENDIX 1

LBTH Primary Schools RSE Mapping

Relationships, Health, Sex Education and Science – Tower Hamlets

DfE Statutory Guidance Relationships Education (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships- education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and- health-education)	DfE non-statutory Sex Education (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education)	Statutory Guidance National Curriculum Science (Statutory guidance - National curriculum in England: science programmes of study – Updated 6 May 2015 https://www.gov.uk/government/publi cations/national-curriculum-in- england-science-programmes-of- study/national-curriculum-in- england-science-programmes-of- study)	DfE Statutory Guidance Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing (Health Education) (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education)
By the end of primary school Pupils should know:		Key Stage 1:	By the end of primary school Pupils should know:
Families and people who care for me			Mental Wellbeing
 that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability. the characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, 	 questions pertaining to sex or sexuality which go beyond what is set out for Relationships Education. 	identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each	 that mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health. that there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise,
including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and	sexual reproduction in humans	sense. • notice that animals,	nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans



- other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives.
- that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care
- that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up.
- that marriage* represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong.
- how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.
- *Marriage in England and Wales is available to both opposite and same

- reproductive cycle in humans
- conception (Year 6 only)
- FGM

- including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

Key Stage 2:

Year 5

 describe the changes as humans develop to old age

Year 6

 recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

From the DfE guidance:

- experience in relation to different experiences and situations
- how to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings.
- how to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate.
- the benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, voluntary and service-based activity on mental wellbeing and happiness.
- simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family and the benefits of hobbies and interests.
- isolation and loneliness can affect children and that it is very important for children to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support.
- that bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental wellbeing.



sex couples. The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 extended marriage to same sex couples in England and Wales. The ceremony through which a couple get married may be civil or religious.

Caring friendships

- how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.
- the characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties.
- that healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded.
- that most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right.
- how to recognise who to trust and

Puberty

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"106. At key stages 1 and 2, the national curriculum for science includes teaching about the main external parts of the body and changes to the human body as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty"

- where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for seeking support), including whom in school they should speak to if they are worried about their own or someone else's mental wellbeing or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online).
- it is common for people to experience mental ill health. For many people who do, the problems can be resolved if the right support is made available, especially if accessed early enough.

Internet safety and harms

- that for most people the internet is an integral part of life and has many benefits.
- about the benefits of rationing time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical wellbeing.
- how to consider the effect of their online actions on others and know



who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed.

Respectful relationships

- the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs.
- practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.
- the conventions of courtesy and manners.
- the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness.
- that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions

how to recognise and **display respectful behaviour online** and the importance of keeping personal information private.

- why social media, some computer games and online gaming, for example, are age restricted.
- that the internet can also be a negative place where online abuse, trolling, bullying and harassment can take place, which can have a negative impact on mental health.
- how to be a discerning consumer of information online including understanding that information, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted.
- where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online.

Physical health and fitness

- the characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle.
- the importance of building regular exercise into daily and



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- about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help.
- what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive.
- the importance of permissionseeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults.

Online relationships

- that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not.
- that the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-toface relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous.
- the rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them.
- how to critically consider their

weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example, walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise.

- the risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity).
- how and when to seek support including which adults to speak to in school if they are worried about their health.

Healthy eating

- what constitutes a healthy diet (including understanding calories and other nutritional content).
- the principles of planning and preparing a range of healthy meals.
- the characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating (including, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health).

By the end of primary school Pupils should know:



online friendships and sources of
information including awareness of
the risks associated with people they
have never met.

 how information and data is shared and used online.

Being safe

- what sorts of **boundaries** are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context).
- about the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe.
- that each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact.
- how to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know.
- how to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult.

Drugs, alcohol and tobacco

 the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drugtaking.

Health and prevention

- how to recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss, or unexplained changes to the body.
- about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer.
- the importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and that a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.
- about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including regular check-ups at the dentist.
- about personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of



 how to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard. how to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so. where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources. 	handwashing. • the facts and science relating to allergies, immunisation and vaccination. Basic first aid • how to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary. • concepts of basic first-aid, for example dealing with common injuries, including head injuries. Changing adolescent body • key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes. • about menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle.
From the DCF and have	mensuda cycle.
From the DfE guidance:	
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) "In teaching Relationships Education and RSE, 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 that	
they comply with the relevant	
provisions of the Equality Act 2010,	
(please see The Equality Act 2010 and	
schools: Departmental advice), under	
which sexual orientation and gender	
reassignment are amongst the	
protected characteristics".	