

JOHN SPENDLUFFE TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE



RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

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1. Aims

The PSHE curriculum takes full account of the government's statutory guidance on relationships and sex education (RSE) and health Education. (February 2019). We aim to prepare pupils to take their place in society as responsible and risk aware citizens. The curriculum has been carefully sequenced taking into account age appropriateness to provide pupils with knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and knowledge and to develop the resilience to ask for and know when to seek support and advice.

The curriculum is designed to support pupils to embrace the challenges of adult life, equipping them with the knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy. Pupils can also put this knowledge into practice as they develop the capacity to make sound decisions when facing risks, challenges and complex contexts. The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- 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 secondary academy school we must provide RSE to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

In teaching RSE, we are required by our funding agreements to have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

At JSTC we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review – a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Staff consultation – all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to submit comments about the policy
4. Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE/PSHEE lessons
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors 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

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

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.

The curriculum has been planned to ensure accessibility for all pupils. Pupils with SEND and particularly those who may be considered more vulnerable to exploitation and bullying have been taken into consideration in the planning of individual schemes of work. The curriculum will allow pupils to discuss potentially sensitive issues. Pupils will be made aware of how to raise their concerns or make a report and how any report will be handled. More details can be found in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHEE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by trained health professionals during assemblies and drop-down days.

RSE 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
- Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

For more information about our RSE 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 children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst other structures) along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RSE policy and hold the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

7.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE (see section 8).

7.3 Staff

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/non-science] components of RSE

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

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. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child 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 of this policy and addressed to the Headteacher.

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

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

9. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar, support is provided by our PSHEE Lead and SLT members.

The Headteacher/PSHEE Lead will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the Senior Leadership team and specifically the PSHEE Lead through student voice, planning, feedback focus and learning walks, etc.

Pupils' development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by Leadership Team- Curriculum Lead and PSHE Lead. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governors and the Headteacher.

SECONDARY PSHE EDUCATION: LONG-TERM OVERVIEW

	Autumn 1 Health & wellbeing	Autumn 2 Living in the wider world	Spring 1 Relationships	Spring 2 Health & wellbeing	Summer 1 Relationships	Summer 2 Living in the wider world
Year 7	Transition and safety Transition to secondary school and personal safety in and outside school, including first aid	Developing skills and aspirations Careers, teamwork and enterprise skills, and raising aspirations	Diversity Diversity, prejudice, and bullying	Health and puberty Healthy routines, influences on health, puberty, unwanted contact, and FGM	Building relationships Self-worth, romance and friendships (including online) and relationship boundaries	Financial decision making Saving, borrowing, budgeting and making financial choices
Year 8	Drugs and alcohol Alcohol and drug misuse and pressures relating to drug use	Community and careers Equality of opportunity in careers and life choices, and different types and patterns of work	Discrimination Discrimination in all its forms, including: racism, religious discrimination, disability, discrimination, sexism, homophobia, biphobia and transphobia	Emotional wellbeing Mental health and emotional wellbeing, including body image and coping strategies	Identity and relationships Gender identity, sexual orientation, consent, 'sexting', and an introduction to contraception	Digital literacy Online safety, digital literacy, media reliability, and gambling hooks
Year 9	Peer influence, substance use and gangs Healthy and unhealthy friendships, assertiveness, substance misuse, and gang exploitation	Setting goals Learning strengths, career options and goal setting as part of the GCSE options process	Respectful relationships Families and parenting, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, and relationship changes	Healthy lifestyle Diet, exercise, lifestyle balance and healthy choices, and first aid	Intimate relationships Relationships and sex education including consent, contraception, the risks of STIs, and attitudes to pornography	Employability skills Employability and online presence
Year 10	Mental health Mental health and ill health, stigma, safeguarding health, including during periods of transition or change	Financial decision making The impact of financial decisions, debt, gambling and the impact of advertising on financial choices	Healthy relationships Relationships and sex expectations, myths, pleasure and challenges, including the impact of the media and pornography	Exploring influence The influence and impact of drugs, gangs, role models and the media		

Year 11	Building for the future Self-efficacy, stress management, and future opportunities		Communication in relationships Personal values, assertive communication (including in relation to contraception and sexual health), relationship challenges and abuse	Independence Responsible health choices, and safety in independent contexts	Families Different families and parental responsibilities, pregnancy, marriage and forced marriage and changing relationships	
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YEAR 7		
Half term	Topic	In this unit of work, students learn...
Autumn 1 Health & wellbeing	Transition and safety Transition to secondary school and personal safety in and outside school, including first aid PoS refs: H1, H2, H30, H33, R13, L1, L2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to identify, express and manage their emotions in a constructive way • how to manage the challenges of moving to a new school • how to establish and manage friendships • how to improve study skills • how to identify personal strengths and areas for development • personal safety strategies and travel safety, e.g. road, rail and water • how to respond in an emergency situation • basic first aid
Autumn 2 Living in the wider world	Developing skills and aspirations Careers, teamwork and enterprise skills, and raising aspirations PoS refs: R15, R39, L1, L4, L5, L9, L10, L12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to be enterprising, including skills of problem-solving, communication, teamwork, leadership, risk-management, and creativity • about a broad range of careers and the abilities and qualities required for different careers • about equality of opportunity • how to challenge stereotypes, broaden their horizons and how to identify future career aspirations • about the link between values and career choices
Spring 1 Relationships	Diversity Diversity, prejudice, and bullying PoS refs: R3, R38, R39, R40, R41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about identity, rights and responsibilities • about living in a diverse society • how to challenge prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination • the signs and effects of all types of bullying, including online • how to respond to bullying of any kind, including online • how to support others

<p>Spring 2 Health & wellbeing</p>	<p>Health and puberty Healthy routines, influences on health, puberty, unwanted contact, and FGM PoS refs: H5, H13, H14, H15, H16, H17, H18, H20, H22, H34</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to make healthy lifestyle choices including diet, dental health, physical activity and sleep • how to manage influences relating to caffeine, smoking and alcohol • how to manage physical and emotional changes during puberty • about personal hygiene • how to recognise and respond to inappropriate and unwanted contact • about FGM and how to access help and support
<p>Summer 1 Relationships</p>	<p>Building relationships Self-worth, romance and friendships (including online) and relationship boundaries PoS refs: H1, R2, R9, R11, R13, R14, R16, R24</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to develop self-worth and self-efficacy • about qualities and behaviours relating to different types of positive relationships • how to recognise unhealthy relationships • how to recognise and challenge media stereotypes • how to evaluate expectations for romantic relationships • about consent, and how to seek and assertively communicate consent
<p>Summer 2 Living in the wider world</p>	<p>Financial decision making Saving, borrowing, budgeting and making financial choices PoS refs: H32, L15, L16, L17, L18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to make safe financial choices • about ethical and unethical business practices and consumerism • about saving, spending and budgeting • how to manage risk-taking behaviour

YEAR 8		
Half term	Topic	In this unit of work, students learn...
Autumn 1 Health & wellbeing	Drugs and alcohol Alcohol and drug misuse and pressures relating to drug use PoS refs: H23, H24, H25, H26, H27, H29, H31, H5, R42, R44	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about medicinal and reactional drugs • about the over-consumption of energy drinks • about the relationship between habit and dependence • how to use over the counter and prescription medications safely • how to assess the risks of alcohol, tobacco, nicotine and e-cigarettes • how to manage influences in relation to substance use • how to recognise and promote positive social norms and attitudes
Autumn 2 Living in the wider world	Community and careers Equality of opportunity in careers and life choices, and different types and patterns of work PoS refs: R39, R41, L3, L8, L9, L10, L11, L12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about equality of opportunity in life and work • how to challenge stereotypes and discrimination in relation to work and pay • about employment, self-employment and voluntary work • how to set aspirational goals for future careers and challenge expectations that limit choices
Spring 1 Relationships	Discrimination Discrimination in all its forms, including: racism, religious discrimination, disability, discrimination, sexism, homophobia, biphobia and transphobia PoS refs: R39, R40, R41, R3, R4, R42, R43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to manage influences on beliefs and decisions • about group-think and persuasion • how to develop self-worth and confidence • about gender identity, transphobia and gender-based discrimination • how to recognise and challenge homophobia and biphobia • how to recognise and challenge racism and religious discrimination

<p>Spring 2 Health & wellbeing</p>	<p>Emotional wellbeing Mental health and emotional wellbeing, including body image and coping strategies</p> <p>PoS refs: H3, H4, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, L24</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about attitudes towards mental health • how to challenge myths and stigma • about daily wellbeing • how to manage emotions • how to develop digital resilience • about unhealthy coping strategies (e.g. self-harm and eating disorders) • about healthy coping strategies
<p>Summer 1 Relationships</p>	<p>Identity and relationships Gender identity, sexual orientation, consent, ‘sexting’, and an introduction to Contraception</p> <p>PoS refs: H35, H36, R4, R5, R10, R16, R18, R24, R25, R26, R27, R29, R30, R32</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the qualities of positive, healthy relationships • how to demonstrate positive behaviours in healthy relationships • about gender identity and sexual orientation • about forming new partnerships and developing relationships • about the law in relation to consent • that the legal and moral duty is with the seeker of consent • how to effectively communicate about consent in relationships • about the risks of ‘sexting’ and how to manage requests or pressure to send an image • about basic forms of contraception, e.g. condom and pill
<p>Summer 2 Living in the wider world</p>	<p>Digital literacy Online safety, digital literacy, media reliability, and gambling hooks</p> <p>PoS refs: H3, H30, H32, R17, L19, L20, L21, L22, L23, L24, L25, L26, L27</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about online communication • how to use social networking sites safely • how to recognise online grooming in different forms, e.g. in relation to sexual or financial exploitation, extremism and radicalisation • how to respond and seek support in cases of online grooming • how to recognise biased or misleading information online • how to critically assess different media sources • how to distinguish between content which is publicly and privately shared • about age restrictions when accessing different forms of media and how to make responsible decisions • how to protect financial security online • how to assess and manage risks in relation to gambling and chance-based transactions

YEAR 9		
Half term	Topic	In this unit of work, students learn...
Autumn 1 Health & wellbeing	Peer influence, substance use and gangs Healthy and unhealthy friendships, assertiveness, substance misuse, and gang exploitation PoS refs: H24, H25, H27, H28, H29, R1, R20, R37, R42, R44, R45, R46, R47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy friendships • how to assess risk and manage influences, including online • about 'group think' and how it affects behaviour • how to recognise passive, aggressive and assertive behaviour, and how to communicate assertively • to manage risk in relation to gangs • about the legal and physical risks of carrying a knife • about positive social norms in relation to drug and alcohol use • about legal and health risks in relation to drug and alcohol use, including addiction and dependence
Autumn 2 Living in the wider world	Setting goals Learning strengths, career options and goal setting as part of the GCSE options process PoS refs: L2, L3, L6, L7, L8, L9, L11, L12, L13, L14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about transferable skills, abilities and interests • how to demonstrate strengths • about different types of employment and career pathways • how to manage feelings relating to future employment • how to work towards aspirations and set meaningful, realistic goals for the future • about GCSE and post-16 options • skills for decision making
Spring 1 Relationships	Respectful relationships Families and parenting, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, and relationship changes PoS refs: H2, R1, R6, R19, R21, R22, R23, R35, R36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about different types of families and parenting, including single parents, same sex parents, blended families, adoption and fostering • about positive relationships in the home and ways to reduce homelessness amongst young people • about conflict and its causes in different contexts, e.g. with family and friends • conflict resolution strategies • how to manage relationship and family changes, including relationship breakdown, separation and divorce • how to access support services

<p>Spring 2 Health & wellbeing</p>	<p>Healthy lifestyle Diet, exercise, lifestyle balance and healthy choices, and first aid</p> <p>PoS refs: H3, H14, H15, H16, H17, H18, H19, H21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about the relationship between physical and mental health • about balancing work, leisure, exercise and sleep • how to make informed healthy eating choices • how to manage influences on body image • to make independent health choices • to take increased responsibility for physical health, including testicular self-examination
<p>Summer 1 Relationships</p>	<p>Intimate relationships Relationships and sex education including consent, contraception, the risks of STIs, and attitudes to pornography</p> <p>PoS refs: R7, R8, R11, R12, R18, R24, R26, R27, R28, R29, R30, R31, R32, R33, R34, L21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about readiness for sexual activity, the choice to delay sex, or enjoy intimacy without sex • about myths and misconceptions relating to consent • about the continuous right to withdraw consent and capacity to consent • about STIs, effective use of condoms and negotiating safer sex • about the consequences of unprotected sex, including pregnancy • how the portrayal of relationships in the media and pornography might affect expectations • how to assess and manage risks of sending, sharing or passing on sexual images • how to secure personal information online
<p>Summer 2 Living in the wider world</p>	<p>Employability skills Employability and online presence</p> <p>PoS refs: R13, R14, L2, L4, L5, L8, L9, L14, L21, L24, L27</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about young people’s employment rights and responsibilities • skills for enterprise and employability • how to give and act upon constructive feedback • how to manage their ‘personal brand’ online • habits and strategies to support progress • how to identify and access support for concerns relating to life online

YEAR 10

Half term	Topic	In this unit of work, students learn...
Health & wellbeing 1	<p>Mental health Mental health and ill health, stigma, safeguarding health, including during periods of transition or change</p> <p>PoS refs: H2, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to manage challenges during adolescence • how to reframe negative thinking • strategies to promote mental health and emotional wellbeing • about the signs of emotional or mental ill-health • how to access support and treatment • about the portrayal of mental health in the media • how to challenge stigma, stereotypes and misinformation
Living in the wider world 1	<p>Financial decision making The impact of financial decisions, debt, gambling and the impact of advertising on financial choices</p> <p>PoS refs: H25, R38, L16, L17, L18, L19, L20, L25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to effectively budget and evaluate savings options • how to prevent and manage debt, including understanding credit rating and pay day lending • how data is generated, collected and shared, and the influence of targeted advertising • how thinking errors, e.g. gambler’s fallacy, can increase susceptibility to gambling • strategies for managing influences related to gambling, including online • about the relationship between gambling and debt • about the law and illegal financial activities, including fraud and cybercrime • how to manage risk in relation to financial activities
Relationships 1	<p>Healthy relationships Relationships and sex expectations, myths, pleasure and challenges, including the impact of the media and pornography</p> <p>PoS refs: R1, R2, R3, R6, R7, R8, R14, R15, R18, R19, R22, R28, R29, R30, R31</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about relationship values and the role of pleasure in relationships • about myths, assumptions, misconceptions and social norms about sex, gender and relationships • about the opportunities and risks of forming and conducting relationships online • how to manage the impact of the media and pornography on sexual attitudes, expectations and behaviours • about the ethical and legal implications in relation to consent, including manipulation, coercion, and capacity to consent • how to recognise and respond to pressure, coercion and exploitation, including reporting and accessing appropriate support • how to recognise and challenge victim blaming • about asexuality, abstinence and celibacy

<p>Health & wellbeing 2</p>	<p>Exploring influence The influence and impact of drugs, gangs, role models and the media</p> <p>PoS refs: H19, H20, H21, R20, R35, R36, R37</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• about positive and negative role models• how to evaluate the influence of role models and become a positive role model for peers• about the media’s impact on perceptions of gang culture• about the impact of drugs and alcohol on individuals, personal safety, families and wider communities• how drugs and alcohol affect decision making• how to keep self and others safe in situations that involve substance use• how to manage peer influence in increasingly independent scenarios, in relation to substances, gangs and crime• exit strategies for pressurised or dangerous situations• how to seek help for substance use and addiction
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YEAR 11

Half term	Topic	In this unit of work, students learn...
Health & Wellbeing 1	Building for the future Self-efficacy, stress management, and future opportunities PoS refs: H2, H3, H4, H8, H12, L22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to manage the judgement of others and challenge stereotyping • how to balance ambition and unrealistic expectations • how to develop self-efficacy, including motivation, perseverance and resilience • how to maintain a healthy self-concept • about the nature, causes and effects of stress • stress management strategies, including maintaining healthy sleep habits • about positive and safe ways to create content online and the opportunities this offers • how to balance time online
Relationships 1	Communication in relationships Personal values, assertive communication (including in relation to contraception and sexual health), relationship challenges and abuse PoS refs: H26, H27, H28, H29, R16, R17, R21, R23, R32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about core values and emotions • about gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation • how to communicate assertively • how to communicate wants and needs • how to handle unwanted attention, including online • how to challenge harassment and stalking, including online • about various forms of relationship abuse • about unhealthy, exploitative and abusive relationships • how to access support in abusive relationships and how to overcome challenges in seeking support

Health & Wellbeing 2	<p>Independence Responsible health choices, and safety in independent contexts</p> <p>PoS refs: H3, H4, H11, H13, H14, H15, H16, H17, H18, H22, H23, H24</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to assess and manage risk and safety in new independent situations (e.g. personal safety in social situations and on the roads) • emergency first aid skills • how to assess emergency and non-emergency situations and contact appropriate services • about the links between lifestyle and some cancers • about the importance of screening and how to perform self examination • about vaccinations and immunisations • about registering with and accessing doctors, sexualhealth clinics, opticians and other health services • how to manage influences and risks relating to cosmeticand aesthetic body alterations • about blood, organ and stem cell donation
Relationships 2	<p>Families Different families and parental responsibilities, pregnancy, marriage and forced marriage and changing relationships</p> <p>PoS refs: H30, H31, H32, H33, R4, R11, R12, R13, R24, R25, R26, R27, R33</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about different types of families and changing family structures • how to evaluate readiness for parenthood and positive parenting qualities • about fertility, including how it varies and changes • about pregnancy, birth and miscarriage • about unplanned pregnancy options, including abortion • about adoption and fostering • how to manage change, loss, grief and bereavement • about 'honour based' violence and forced marriage and howto safely access support

Appendix 2: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			
TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL			
Agreed actions from discussion with parents			

This should be completed and sent to the Headteacher.

POLICY DOCUMENTS

The following policy document was presented to the Governing Body of John Spendluffe Technology College and approved and adopted by them on the date stated.

Policy: RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)

Signed as approved on behalf of the Governing Body

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Curtis', written in a cursive style.

Mr S Curtis, Headteacher

Date: 24 January 2022