



Buckinghamshire University Technical College

**Relationships and Sex Education
Policy**

Responsible Officer:	Assistant Principal (Pastoral and Inclusion)
Date:	September 2020
Review date:	September 2020
Procedure available:	Website/Reception/Learning Centre
Authorised by:	Governing Board

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Purpose

This policy covers our UTC's approach to Relationships and Sex Education. It was produced to communicate to Staff, Governors, Parents/Carers, Visitors and Students in the manner in which RSE will be delivered and supported at Bucks UTC, alongside the PSHE Curriculum.

Our RSE policy aims to ensure students learn about:

- Different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships, intimate relationships and dealing with strangers.
- How to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships with a focus on respect for self and others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent.
- How to manage conflict and recognize unhealthy relationships.
- How relationships effect health and well-being, including mental health.
- Healthy relationships and safety on-line.
- Factual knowledge around sex, sexual health and sexuality in relationships

These aims fit with the core expectations we promote at the UTC to show respect for all and commit to being the best you can be.

Compliance

The DfE's policy statement 'Relationships Education: Relationships and Sex Education', is statutory in all schools from September 2020. Bucks UTC, like other secondary provisions, must have regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State as outlined in Section 403 of the Education Act 1996. This is statutory guidance from the Department for Education issued under Section 80A of the Education Act 2002 and Section 403 of the Education Act 1996

Other documents that have informed the UTC's RSE policy include:

- The Education Act (1996)
- Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010)
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21st century (2014)
- Keeping Children Safe In Education – Statutory Safeguarding Guidance (2020)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

Definition

Sex and Relationship Education is *'lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity'* (DfEE, 2016).

Introduction

Our RSE curriculum is designed to support children and young people growing up in an increasingly complex and digital world. Whilst the internet is an overwhelmingly positive development in our lives, it does present significant challenges, particularly for young people and how they can form healthy relationships. The dominance of social media, the prevalence of cyber-bullying and the risk that children learn about relationships from untrustworthy sources has created a need for good quality RSE to support students to make the right decisions and keep themselves safe and happy.

Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the UTC's Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum. Across Key Stages 4 and 5, students will be supported with developing the following skills:

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Board

Members will:

- Approve the RSE policy
- Hold the Principal/SENCO to account for the implementation of RSE at the UTC

The Principal / Assistant Principal (Pastoral and Inclusion)

The Principal/ Assistant Principal (Pastoral and Inclusion) will:

- Ensure that RSE is taught consistently across the UTC
- Manage requests to withdraw students from non-statutory components of RSE (all science related components are statutory)

Class Teachers

Class teachers are responsible for:

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

Students

Students are expected to:

- Engage fully with the RSE Curriculum. If RSE lessons are missed through a lack of punctuality they will be expected to catch up at in their break or lunch time.
- Treat others with respect and sensitivity when discussing issues related to RSE.

Parent's Right to Withdraw

Parents' have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of RSE. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the Principal/SENCO. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the student's educational record. The Principal/SENCO will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Appropriate alternative work will be given to any students who are withdrawn from RSE.

Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE and have regular contact with the RSE Lead, on INSET days and whenever deemed appropriate. The Principal/SENCO will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as School Nurses or Sexual Health Professionals and other related external agencies to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

Monitoring Arrangements

The delivery of RSE is monitored by the Assistant Principal (Pastoral and Inclusion) through the quality assurance programme of learning walks, lesson observations and student voice. Student's development in RSE is monitored by class teachers but is not formally assessed using the 9-1 grading system used by other subject areas. This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.