

Changes to PSHE delivery – Relationship and Sex Education



Statutory requirements

- The new RSE and health education curriculum will be mandatory from September 2020.
- As a secondary academy, we must provide RSE to all Students 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 Blue Coat Academy, we teach RSE as set out in this policy. Further information can also be found on Department of Education.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-social-health-and-economic-education-pshe/personal-social-health-and-economic-pshe-education>

General Principles

- Relationship and Sex Education will be taught at Blue Coat primarily in the PSHE programme in all Years (7 – 13). It will therefore be considered within and alongside other issues relating to personal, social and family matters and not in isolation.
- Certain aspects of sexual activity and human reproduction will also be covered in the science curriculum in compliance with the national curriculum requirements in that subject. Such teaching will take note of the wider work undertaken in the PSHE programme and be phased to fit in with that so that they complement each other.
- In addition to basic factual information, students will be encouraged to express their own opinions and consider those of others in the class and those introduced by the teachers to ensure balance.
- The teaching of the RSE curriculum takes into account that different cultural backgrounds, religious beliefs and communities may have differing moral opinions on some matters of relationships and sex education.’ It is vital that Students are aware of the variety of opinion within society and are given the opportunity to explore these in a spirit of openness and tolerance and within a controlled situation in the classroom.
- The overarching objective will be that Students will eventually develop a responsible personal attitude towards sexual activity based on considered autonomous decision making.
- Our approach to RSE is rooted in the Church of England teaching of the human person. In which sexual matters are discussed appreciating the benefits of a stable family life, the responsibilities of parenthood and the validity of being single.
- The legal framework relating to sexual activity will be part of the agenda of the relationship and sex education programme at all stages.
- Students will be encouraged to develop personal relationship skills and learn the value of many different kinds of friendship, including platonic and in their right not to be sexually active.
- As part of this teaching, students are signposted to support networks should they wish to discuss these matters further