
Policy on **Relationships Education**

June 2021

Pardes House Primary
School

Headteacher: Rabbi J Sager
Menahel: Rebbe S Roitenbarg

POLICY ON RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults. (DfE statutory guidance, 2020 RSE primary school requirements)

Aims

- To develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships;
- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development of all pupils;
- To prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experience of adult life
- To promote and encourage a respect for self and others;
- To demonstrate and promote responsibility for one's own actions;
- To promote a responsibility towards one's own family, friends, school and wider community.

Intent for our Relationships Education programme

For our pupils to understand what a real relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who the people are who can support them – at home, school and elsewhere. In line with statutory expectations our intention is that from the beginning of primary school, our pupils are taught how to take turns, how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect, the importance of honesty and truthfulness, permission seeking and giving, and the concept of personal privacy.

Establishing, respecting and understanding the importance of personal space, consent, personal boundaries, showing respect and understanding the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical contact are reinforced constantly with our pupils.

Respect for others will be taught in an age-appropriate way, in terms of understanding one's own and others' boundaries in play, in negotiations about space, toys, books, resources and so on.

It is our policy that teachers will be clear about what healthy friendships and relationships are. It is our intent that this will enable pupils to form a strong understanding of the features of relationships that are likely to lead to happiness and security. This will also help them to recognise any less positive relationships when they encounter them.

The principles of positive relationships also apply online especially as, by the end of primary school, many children will already be using the internet or have access to other forms of digital technologies outside of our school, such as smart phones and tablets. Online safety is taught to all children in all classes every year by the Headteacher.

Children are taught about different types of families through the school's annual Tolerance and Respect week of individual class sessions, delivered across the school by the Headteacher. Teaching about families will require sensitive and well-judged teaching based on knowledge of pupils and their circumstances as the school will have children living in a variety of family circumstances.

As part of the school's relationships education programme and in the wider context of lessons and daily school life, pupils are encouraged to believe they can achieve, to persevere with tasks, to work towards long-term rewards and keep going despite setbacks. Relationships Education also creates an opportunity to enable pupils to be taught about positive emotional and mental wellbeing, including how friendships can support mental wellbeing.

Pupils are and will continue to be taught the importance of personal attributes such as honesty, integrity, courage, humility, kindness, generosity, trustworthiness and a sense of justice.

Through relationships education, both formal and informal, as well as special weeks and events, our school will teach pupils the knowledge they need to recognise and report when they have been in difficult or dangerous personal situations. Knowing how to 'stay safe' in so many different ways and different situations will be an important part of our relationships education programme.

During the transition phase from Upper Key Stage 2 through to moving to secondary school, the school will start to prepare pupils for the changes that adolescence brings. This will be shared with parents too.

Equal opportunities

Our relationships education programme will foster a sense of responsibility, encourage the development of a positive self-image and reassure pupils of their value and self-worth. Our school is committed to working towards equality of opportunity in all aspects of school life and to reassuring pupils they are valuable and worthy individuals. We encourage children to respect and appreciate difference and protected characteristics.

Implementation

Our relationships education programme will be delivered through specific PSHE sessions in class and through our extensive informal education programme, including special weeks, assemblies, special days and other events.

It is the school's responsibility to:

- Encourage the development of communication and social skills;
- Provide sensible, honest and straightforward answers to questions raised by pupils to help pupils to develop as emotionally mature human beings;
- Provide information which is easy to understand and appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils;
- Encourage the development of positive values and attitudes.

Topics in our RSE programme include

- People in my life – family and the people that care for me;
- Friendships;
- Self-respect, respect for others and positive relationships;
- Who I am;
- Manners;
- Mental wellbeing – Moods and feelings; what makes us happy, sad etc;
- Different types of families;
- What I like or do not like about other people;
- Managing friendships;
- Caring for others – close to home and in the wider world;
- Keeping safe from danger, including through digital media;
- Healthy living – hygiene, sleep, exercise, what we eat.
- Changes as we grow.

Sex education

Sex education is not compulsory in primary schools and it is not our school's intention for this to be taught directly to pupils in our school. However, pupils will learn about the importance of positive relationships as well as growth and development in Science. Issues are addressed as they arise by the class teacher.

Safeguarding and Child protection

The school has a Safeguarding and Child Protection policy. Any concerns or issues that arise during our relationships education programme are to be referred to the designated person for child protection, namely the Headteacher or a member of the school's Child Protection Team, the Menahel or Inclusion Leader.

Confidentiality

Those members of staff concerned should maintain confidentiality and issues should not be discussed with other staff or adults unless the need arises, for the child's safety and security. Staff should not offer or guarantee pupils unconditional confidentiality.

Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from sex education lessons but not from statutory relationship education.

Signed:

Date: June 2021

Review: June 2023