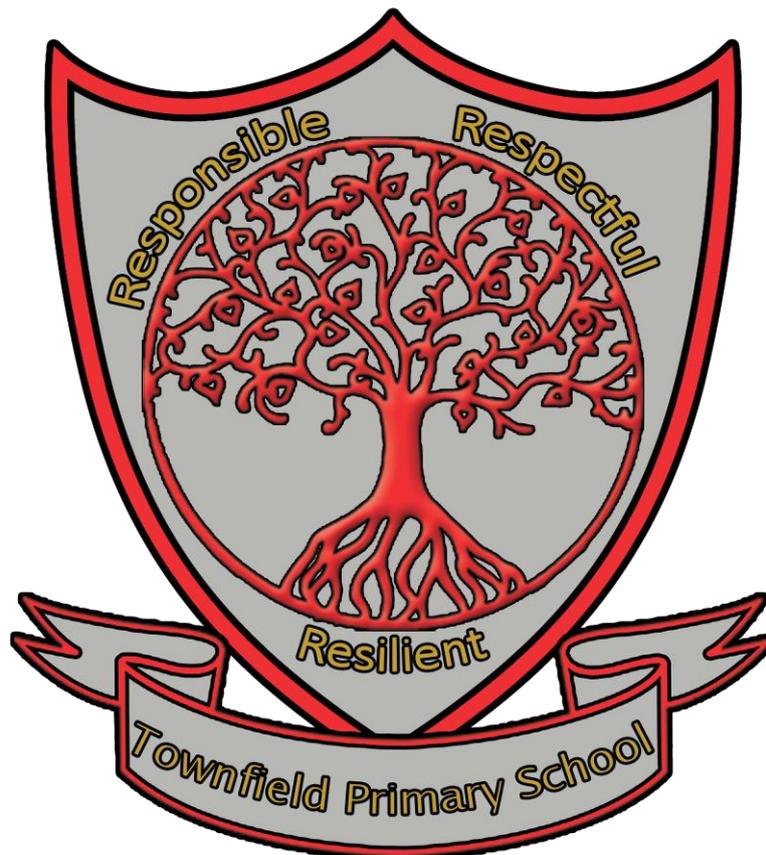


# Townfield Primary School

## Relationships & Sex Education Policy



This policy was approved by the Headteacher Spring 2021

This policy is due for review Spring 2022

# Townfield Primary School Relationships & Sex Education Policy

## Rationale

In this school effective sex and relationship education is seen to be essential if young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their lives.

The school's approach to, and the content of, its sex and relationships teaching will be differentiated appropriately to reflect the different ages and levels of development of the pupils being taught. It will not be delivered in isolation but will be firmly rooted within PSHE and other areas of the curriculum. It will be part of lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It will be about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It will also be about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health where appropriate. It is not concerned with the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity.

## Guidelines

1. The governing body and head teacher will involve parents in developing and reviewing our Relationships and Sex Education policy to ensure that this policy reflects parents' wishes and the culture of the community we serve.
2. Learners will be taught about the nature and importance of marriage for family life and bringing up children. Learners will also be taught that there are strong and mutually supportive relationships outside marriage.
3. Learners will be taught the significance of marriage and stable relationships as key building blocks of community and society.
4. Care will be taken to ensure that there is no stigmatising of children based on their home circumstances.
5. Learners will be given accurate information. This will help when developing skills to enable them to understand difference, respect for themselves and others. This process is also essential in preventing and removing prejudice e.g. homophobia.
6. Sex and relationship education will contribute to the promotion of the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at school and of society. It will prepare pupils to meet the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
7. Sex and relationship education will reflect the aims of the Equality and Diversity policy.

## Purpose

1. To help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development.
2. To help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood, through adolescence, into adulthood – with particular regard to homophobia and transgender issues in KS2.
3. To help learners develop the skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives.
4. To help learners understand and deal with difficult moral and social questions.

5. To teach sensitively, and when appropriate for learners, about sex, sexuality, and sexual health.
6. To help learners understand the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care and not to stereotype these loving relationships.
7. To support learners in understanding and managing their risks, emotions and relationships confidently.
8. To help learners to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice.

### **Role of the Subject Leader**

The role of the subject leader will be to:-

1. Ensure that both staff and parents are informed and consulted with in regards to the policy.
2. To implement the policy effectively.
3. To provide training where necessary so that they can teach about sex and relationships effectively and handle difficult issues with sensitivity.
4. Provide class teachers with advice, support and appropriate resources to implement the teaching programme.
5. To ensure that all aspects are covered in a sequential order in the curriculum overview (PSHE).
6. To monitor and evaluate the planning and teaching programmes.
7. To implement the teaching programmes with the assistance of outside agencies, e.g. the school nurse, when appropriate.
8. To involve parents in the creation of the RSE policy and inform them of the specific programmes that will be put in place.

### **Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum and Delivery**

The relationships and sex education content is, primarily, included in the PSHE curriculum overview, however, some of the content can be found within the science curriculum.

The proper names for the reproductive parts of the body will be used by all staff members (including F1) to safe-guard children.

Year 5 and 6 will have discrete Sex Education lessons delivered by the class teacher. For Year 5 it will focus on puberty and the changing body and for Year 6 it will include some basic sex education content. This will be tailored so it is appropriate to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the children. It will ensure that children are prepared for the changes that adolescence bring and will draw on the knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the science national curriculum (how a baby is conceived and born).

Parents will be consulted before this is delivered to share the content of what will be taught. Support will be also given to parents in talking to their children about sex education and how to link it with what is being taught in school.

The teaching and materials will be appropriate to the age, religious background and the ability of the children. The significance of other factors is also recognised with having the Hearing Support Base.

### **Withdrawing Children**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from sex education and puberty lessons. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from these lessons, they should discuss this with the head teacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. The school always complies with the wishes of parents in this regard.

### **Organisation**

At TPS, member of staff have access to the Medway scheme of work. Units of work that fit in with our curriculum overview can be used to support planning.

At Townfield Primary School we teach about relationships through different aspects of the curriculum (for example, science and PE). We believe this contributes significantly to children's knowledge and understanding of their own bodies, and how they are changing and developing.

In Science lessons in Key Stage 1 we teach children about how humans and animals move, feed and grow, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body. Children learn to appreciate the fact that people are not all the same, and that we need to respect each other. In Key Stage 2 we teach about life processes, and the main stages of the human life cycle, in greater depth.

In Year 5 and 6 we place a particular emphasis on health education, as many children experience puberty at this age. We liaise with the Local Health Authority about suitable teaching materials to use with our children in these lessons. Teachers do their best to answer all questions with sensitivity and care. By the end of Key Stage 2, we ensure that both boys and girls know how babies are born, how children's bodies change during puberty, what menstruation is, and how it affects women. The school nurse supports with appropriate resources and information, however the sessions are delivered by the Year 5 and Year 6 teachers. We always teach this with due regard for the emotional development of the children.

We arrange a meeting for all parents and carers of children in Year 5 and 6 to discuss this particular programme of lessons, to explain what the issues are, and how they are taught, and to see the materials the school uses in its teaching.

### **Information for Parents**

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's Sex and Relationships education lies with parents and carers.

We therefore wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school, through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation. To promote this objective we:

- Inform and consult with parents about the school's sex and relationship education policy and practice;
- Answer any questions that parents may have about the sex and relationships education of their child.
- Take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about the arrangements for sex and relationships education in the school;

We believe that, through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information, children will benefit from being given consistent messages about their changing bodies and their increasing responsibilities.

### **Withdrawing Children**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from sex education and puberty lessons.

If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from these lessons, they should discuss this with the head teacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. The school always complies with the wishes of parents in this regard.

### **The role of outside Agencies**

We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to health education. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority, such as the school nurse and other health professionals, give us valuable support with our sex and relationships education programme

### **Confidentiality**

At Townfield Primary School teachers conduct sex and relationship education lessons in a sensitive manner. Confidentiality of young people cannot and must not be guaranteed by school staff. It is the responsibility of every member of staff to know and abide by the schools safeguarding procedures. If any member of staff has a concern about the safety of a pupil they must use the correct process to report their concerns to the designated safeguarding leads.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Throughout the year the subject leader will monitor:

1. The planning and implementation of the Sex and Relationship education activities.
2. The resources available or those that become necessary to implement the teaching programmes.
3. The success of the Sex and Relationships policy and procedures, and report any difficulties with regard to teaching programmes or training.

## Resources

- Resources support the schools agreed aims, the aims of lessons and the objectives and values framework for SRE.
- Resources portray positive images of a range of young people and are appropriate to the needs of the pupils.
- Resources contribute to a broad, balanced PHSE Curriculum.
- Resources avoid racism, sexism and gender stereotyping.
- Resources are factual and up to date.
- Resources encourage being active and participatory.

**Policy/Plan administration**

<b>Version number</b>	1.1
<b>Details of any amendment(s)</b>	
<b>Date of issue</b>	Spring 2021
<b>Electronic copies of this plan are available from</b>	The school office
<b>Hard copies of this plan are available from</b>	The school office
<b>Date of next review</b>	Spring 2022
<b>Person responsible for review</b>	RD & HT