

Ormiston Academies Trust

## Ormiston Horizon Academy

# Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education policy (secondary)

### Policy version control

Policy type	Statutory policy, OAT template strongly recommended
Author	Bryden Joy
Approved by	Exec, July 2023
Release date	July 2023 (for implementation September 2023)
Review	Policies will be reviewed in line with OAT's internal policy schedule and/or updated when new legislation comes into force
Description of changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reformatted and re-numbered throughout</li><li>1.1 Update of reference to KCSIE 2023</li><li>4.2 Clarification of the sharing of teachers' views and beliefs</li><li>4.4 Removal of footnote; addition of subsections 4.4.1, 4.4.2 and 4.4.3 to clarify the right to request withdrawal</li><li>4.9 Clarification on statutory curriculum content to which withdrawal does not apply</li><li>Appendix 1 example letter to parents/carers removed</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Appendix 2 Science, Citizenship, PE, Computing national curriculum moved to Appendix 1</li></ul>
--	--

## Contents

1. Policy statement and principles.....	4
Legislation.....	4
Policy aims and principles.....	4
Complaints.....	5
Monitoring and review.....	5
2. Organisation of the Programme .....	6
Families .....	6
Respectful relationships, including friendships .....	6
Online and media.....	7
Being safe.....	8
Intimate sexual relationships, including sexual health: .....	8
Mental wellbeing .....	9
Internet safety and harms .....	9
Physical health and fitness .....	10
Healthy eating.....	10
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco .....	10
Health and prevention.....	10
Basic first aid .....	11
Changing adolescent body .....	11
Training of staff.....	11
3. The Preventative PSHE Curriculum .....	12
Safeguarding, reports of abuse and confidentiality .....	12
Addressing Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment in the PSHE curriculum .....	12
4. Parental Involvement .....	13
5. Equal opportunities .....	15
6. Assessment .....	16
Appendix 1.....	18
Science, Citizenship, PE, Computing national curriculum .....	18

# 1. Policy statement and principles

## Legislation

1.1. This policy will be compliant with the following guidance:

- DfE 'Relationship Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' Statutory guidance
- DfE 'Science, PE, Computing, Citizenship programmes of study: key stage 3'
- DfE 'Science, PE, Computing, Citizenship programmes of study: key stage 4'
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023

## Policy aims and principles

1.2. Definition: relationship and sex education (RSE) is defined as:

- *A programme designed to give young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships. It should enable them to know what a healthy relationship looks like and what makes a good friend, a good colleague and a successful marriage or other type of committed relationship. It should also cover contraception, developing intimate relationships and resisting pressure to have sex (and not applying pressure). It should teach what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in relationships. This will help pupils understand the positive effects that good relationships have on their mental wellbeing, identify when relationships are not right and understand how such situations can be managed.*

1.3. Our vision:

- *By the time they leave year 11, our pupils will be able to make informed decisions with regard to their own health (including sexual health) and personal well-being whilst having regard for the well-being and rights of others.*

1.4. Our aims: our academy is committed to relationships and sex education which:

1.4.1. Is an identifiable part of our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education curriculum, which has planned, timetabled lessons across all the Key Stages

1.4.2. Is taught by staff regularly trained in RSE and PSHE (with expert visitors invited in to enhance and supplement the programme where appropriate)

1.4.3. Works in partnership with parents and carers, informing them about what their children will be learning and about how they can contribute at home

1.4.4. Delivers lessons where pupils feel safe and encourages participation by using a variety of teaching approaches with opportunities to develop critical thinking and relationship skills

- 1.4.5. Is based on reliable sources of information, including about the law and legal rights, and distinguishes between fact and opinion
- 1.4.6. Promotes safe, equal, caring and enjoyable relationships and discusses real-life issues appropriate to the age and stage of pupils, including friendships, families, consent, relationship abuse, sexual exploitation and safe relationships online
- 1.4.7. Gives a positive view of human sexuality, with honest and medically accurate information, so that pupils can learn about their bodies and sexual and reproductive health in ways that are appropriate to their age and maturity
- 1.4.8. Gives pupils opportunities to reflect on values and influences (such as from peers, media, faith and culture) that may shape their attitudes to relationships and sex, and nurtures respect for different views
- 1.4.9. Includes learning about how to get help and treatment from sources such as the school nurse and other health and advice services, including reliable information online
- 1.4.10. Fosters gender equality and LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, questioning) equality and challenges all forms of discrimination in RSE lessons and in every-day school life
- 1.4.11. Meets the needs of all pupils with their diverse experiences - including those with special educational needs and disabilities
- 1.4.12. Seeks pupils' views about RSE so that teaching can be made relevant to their real lives and assessed and adapted as their needs change
- 1.4.13. This policy is consistent with all other policies adopted by OAT / the academy and is written in line with current legislation and guidance.

## Complaints

- 1.5. All complaints are dealt with under the OAT Complaints Policy.
- 1.6. Complaints should be made in writing and will follow the OAT complaint procedures and set timescales. The handling of complaints may be delegated to an appropriate person.

## Monitoring and review

- 1.7. This policy will be reviewed annually or in the following circumstances:
  - changes in legislation and / or government guidance
  - as a result of any other significant change or event
  - in the event that the policy is determined not to be effective
- 1.8. This policy will be reviewed by the principal in conjunction with the PSHE coordinator on an annual basis. Any changes needed to the policy, including changes to the programme, will be implemented by the principal.

- 1.9. Any changes to the policy will be clearly communicated to all members of staff involved in the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education programme.

## 2. Organisation of the Programme

- 2.1. RSE and Health Education are coordinated by the PSHE Lead (L Nield) who is responsible for the overall planning, implementation and review of the programme.
- 2.2. RSE and Health education will be conducted in accordance with legislation and DfE statutory guidance and will be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis.
- 2.3. The majority of the programme will be taught in PT time by trained personal tutors and be supported by the delivery of the national curriculum in Citizenship, Science, Physical Education and Computing. Pupils can be taught in mixed ability, mixed gender or single sex groupings. There will be additional expert input from external agencies.
- 2.4. In Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) we teach pupils about:

### Families

- 2.5. Pupils should know:
- 2.5.1. that there are different types of committed, stable relationships.
  - 2.5.2. how these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children.
  - 2.5.3. what marriage is, including their legal status e.g. that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony.
  - 2.5.4. why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into.
  - 2.5.5. the characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships.
  - 2.5.6. the roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting.
  - 2.5.7. how to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend, intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others' relationships); and, how to seek help or advice, including reporting concerns about others, if needed.

### Respectful relationships, including friendships

- 2.6. Pupils should know:

- 2.6.1.the characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship.
- 2.6.2.practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.
- 2.6.3.how stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might pressurise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice).
- 2.6.4.that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs.
- 2.6.5.about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help.
- 2.6.6.that some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control.
- 2.6.7.what constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable.
- 2.6.8.the legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal.

## Online and media

### 2.7. Pupils should know:

- 2.7.1.their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online.
- 2.7.2.about online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online.
- 2.7.3.not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them.
- 2.7.4.what to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online.
- 2.7.5.the impact of viewing harmful content.

2.7.6.that specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners.

2.7.7.that sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail.

2.7.8.how information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online.

## Being safe

2.8. Pupils should know:

2.8.1.the concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships.

2.8.2.how people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online).

## Intimate sexual relationships, including sexual health:

2.9. Pupils should know:

2.9.1.how to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship.

2.9.2.that all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g. physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing.

2.9.3.the facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women.

2.9.4.that there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others.

2.9.5.that they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex.

2.9.6.the facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available.

2.9.7.the facts around pregnancy including miscarriage.

2.9.8.that there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help).



2.9.9. how the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing.

2.9.10. about the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment.

2.9.11. how the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour.

2.9.12. how to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment.

2.10. In Health Education we teach pupils about:

### Mental wellbeing

2.11. Pupils should know:

2.11.1. how to talk about their emotions accurately and sensitively, using appropriate vocabulary.

2.11.2. that happiness is linked to being connected to others.

2.11.3. how to recognise the early signs of mental wellbeing concerns.

2.11.4. common types of mental ill health (e.g. anxiety and depression).

2.11.5. how to critically evaluate when something they do or are involved in has a positive or negative effect on their own or others' mental health.

2.11.6. the benefits and importance of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation and voluntary and service-based activities on mental wellbeing and happiness.

### Internet safety and harms

2.12. Pupils should know:

2.12.1. the similarities and differences between the online world and the physical world, including: the impact of unhealthy or obsessive comparison with others online (including through setting unrealistic expectations for body image, how people may curate a specific image of their life online, over-reliance on online relationships including social media, the risks related to online gambling including the accumulation of debt, how advertising and

2.12.2. information is targeted at them and how to be a discerning consumer of information online.

- 2.12.3. how to identify harmful behaviours online (including bullying, abuse or harassment) and how to report, or find support, if they have been affected by those behaviours.

## Physical health and fitness

- 2.13. Pupils should know:

- 2.13.1. the positive associations between physical activity and promotion of mental wellbeing, including as an approach to combat stress.
- 2.13.2. the characteristics and evidence of what constitutes a healthy lifestyle, maintaining a healthy weight, including the links between an inactive lifestyle and ill health, including cancer and cardio-vascular ill-health.
- 2.13.3. about the science relating to blood, organ and stem cell donation.

## Healthy eating

- 2.14. Pupils should know:

- 2.14.1. how to maintain healthy eating and the links between a poor diet and health risks, including tooth decay and cancer.

## Drugs, alcohol and tobacco

- 2.15. Pupils should know:

- 2.15.1. the facts about legal and illegal drugs and their associated risks, including the link between drug use, and the associated risks, including the link to serious mental health conditions.
- 2.15.2. the law relating to the supply and possession of illegal substances.
- 2.15.3. the physical and psychological risks associated with alcohol consumption and what constitutes low risk alcohol consumption in adulthood.
- 2.15.4. the physical and psychological consequences of addiction, including alcohol dependency.
- 2.15.5. awareness of the dangers of drugs which are prescribed but still present serious health risks.
- 2.15.6. the facts about the harms from smoking tobacco (particularly the link to lung cancer), the benefits of quitting and how to access support to do so.

## Health and prevention

- 2.16. Pupils should know:

- 2.16.1. about personal hygiene, germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread, treatment and prevention of infection, and about antibiotics.
- 2.16.2. about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including healthy eating and regular check-ups at the dentist.
- 2.16.3. (late secondary) the benefits of regular self-examination and screening.
- 2.16.4. the facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination.
- 2.16.5. the importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and how a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.

## Basic first aid

- 2.17. Pupils should know:
  - 2.17.1. basic treatment for common injuries.
  - 2.17.2. life-saving skills, including how to administer CPR
  - 2.17.3. the purpose of defibrillators and when one might be needed.

## Changing adolescent body

- 2.18. Pupils should know:
  - 2.18.1. key facts about puberty, the changing adolescent body and menstrual wellbeing.
  - 2.18.2. the main changes which take place in males and females, and the implications for emotional and physical health.
  - 2.18.3. External experts may be invited to assist from time to time with the delivery of the sex and relationship education programme, but will be expected to comply with the provisions of this policy.
  - 2.18.4. Relationships and sex education and health education form part of the curriculum in every year group. Our programmes of study by year group / key stage are available to view on the academy website.

## Training of staff

- 2.19. All staff members at the academy will undergo training on a timely basis to ensure they are up-to-date with the relationship and sex education and health education programme.
- 2.20. Training of staff will also be scheduled around any updated guidance on the programme and any new developments in content.

2.21. The academy will ensure that teachers receive training on the best practice principles as outlined by the PSHE Association on creating a safe learning environment. To include:

- Setting ground rules
- Distancing the learning
- The safe handling of questions
- The protection of vulnerable learners
- Signposting for further help and support

2.22. The academy will use resources including the National College training materials as well as the PSHE resources published by the DfE to train staff members in the teaching of PSHE.

### 3. The Preventative PSHE Curriculum

#### Safeguarding, reports of abuse and confidentiality

- 3.1. At the heart of these subjects there is a focus on keeping children safe, we play an important role in preventative education. Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) sets out that all schools and colleges should ensure children are taught about safeguarding, including how to stay safe online, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum.
- 3.2. We follow good practice guidelines allowing children an open forum to discuss potentially sensitive issues. Such discussions can lead to increased safeguarding reports. Children will be made aware of how to raise their concerns or make a report and how any report will be handled. This process will include when they have a concern about a friend or peer.
- 3.3. All staff know what to do if a pupil tells them that they are being abused or neglected or are witnessing abuse. Staff know how to manage the requirement to maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality. This means only involving those who need to be involved, such as the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputy) and children's social care. Staff will never promise a child that they will not tell anyone about a report of abuse, as this may ultimately not be in the best interests of the child.
- 3.4. When we invite external agencies in to support delivery of these subjects, we will agree in advance of the session how a safeguarding report should be dealt with by the external visitor. We will ensure that children understand how confidentiality will be handled in a lesson and what might happen if they choose to make a report.

#### Addressing Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment in the PSHE curriculum

- 3.5. Sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between two children of any age and sex from primary through to secondary stage into colleges. It can occur through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or a group of children. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap; they can occur online and face to face (both physically and verbally) and are never acceptable. Our staff maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here.'

- 3.6. Schools and colleges have a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children at their school/college. The best response to child sexual violence and harassment are those which take a whole school or college approach to safeguarding and child protection.
- 3.7. Our planned programme of evidence-based content delivered through the PSHE curriculum is part of our whole school approach that prepares our students for life in modern Britain. It is delivered in regularly timetabled lessons and reinforced through the whole curriculum. We have planned our programme with a spiral approach to meet the needs of our pupils, considering their age and stage of development. Our schemes of learning build on prior knowledge with the importance of healthy relationships developed during the earlier years, and a focus on specific aspects, such as teen relationship violence, sexual exploitation, and coercion – at an appropriate stage. Our preventative PSHE education curriculum specifically includes:
- The points related to the 'Being Safe' element of DfE Statutory RSHE (see point 2.2.4 of this policy)
  - Teaching about healthy and respectful relationships
  - Teaching about what respectful behaviour looks like
  - Boundaries and consent
  - Stereotyping, prejudice, and equality
  - Body confidence and self-esteem
  - Teaching about the features of unhealthy and coercive relationships, including how to recognize an abusive relationship, including coercive and controlling behaviour
  - Teaching about the features of sexual harassment
  - The concepts of, and laws relating to sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, and honour-based abuse such as forced marriage and FGM, and how to access support
  - Teaching about the risks associated with sharing sexual images and the potential impacts of viewing pornography
  - That sexual violence and sexual harassment is always unacceptable; and how the law defines them
  - When, why, and how to report abuse and access appropriate support.
- 3.8. We ensure that our academy DSL and pastoral team have oversight of the PSHE education curriculum and understand when these topics are taught, so they are prepared to support pupils who disclose or are affected by the issues raised.

## 4. Parental Involvement

- 4.1. We understand that the teaching of some aspects of the programme may be of concern to parents/carers.
- 4.2. The content of the programme provides pupils with factual content, in line with our vision as referenced in section 1.3. Pupils will be encouraged to share their views, and to recognise and appreciate views which may differ from their own. Teachers may share their own views or beliefs where it is appropriate and relevant to the lesson content; in such instances, teachers will clarify

such comments as being of their own opinion and not fact. Teachers will also ensure that they abide by relevant professional and impartiality guidelines in making such contributions.

- 4.3. Parents/carers will be regularly consulted on the content of the programme, through meetings or letters, and the programme will therefore be planned in conjunction with parents/carers.
- 4.4. We respect the legal right of parents/carers to withdraw their child from all or part of the Sex Education component of the RSHE programme, except for statutory elements included within the national curriculum for Citizenship, PE, Computing and Science.
  - 4.4.1. Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from Relationships Education and/or Health Education content. For clarity, the lesson content which is specifically deemed as Sex Education content, and therefore from which a child may be withdrawn, is:
    - Contraception / STIs
  - 4.4.2. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from any or all of the lesson content listed in section 4.4.1, they should put in writing which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in and send this to the academy addressed to the Senior Vice Principal (L Toach) and the PSHE Lead (L Nield)
  - 4.4.3. In accordance with the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education statutory guidance, a pupil who has been withdrawn from Sex Education content will have the right to opt into Sex Education content from their 15th birthday (specifically, three academic terms before turning 16).
- 4.5. Before granting any such request the Senior Vice Principal will discuss the request with parents and, as appropriate, with the child to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum. We will document this process to ensure a record is kept.
- 4.6. During this discussion the PSHE Lead will discuss with parents the benefits of receiving this important education and any detrimental effects that withdrawal might have on the child. This could include any social and emotional effects of being excluded, as well as the likelihood of the child hearing their peers' version of what was said in the classes, rather than what was directly said by the teacher.
- 4.7. Once those discussions have taken place, except in exceptional circumstances, we will respect the parents' request to withdraw the child, up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, we will make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.
- 4.8. This process is the same for pupils with SEND. However, there may be exceptional circumstances where the PSHE Lead and SENCO may want to take a pupil's specific needs arising from their SEND into account when making this decision. Additional support may be offered to ensure the best learning outcomes where appropriate.
- 4.9. The academy always complies with the wishes of parents in this regard and will provide appropriate sources of information for parents who wish to withdraw their children. If, after meeting with the academy to discuss their concerns, a parent withdraws their child from topics

which are **not included in the statutory national curriculum, Relationships Education curriculum or Health Education curriculum**, then the academy will make alternative arrangements for the pupil.

- 4.10. A list of the statutory topics included in the national curriculum at the different key stages, can be found in Appendix 1.

## 5. Equal opportunities

- 5.1. We understand and abide by The Equality Act 2010, and fully respect the rights of pupils and staff members.
- 5.2. Under the provisions of the Equality Act, we will not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership, or sexual orientation (collectively known as the protected characteristics). We will also make reasonable adjustments to alleviate disadvantage and be mindful of the SEND Code of Practice when planning for these subjects.
- 5.3. We are dedicated to delivering the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education programme with sensitivity and respect, avoiding any derogatory or prejudicial terms which may cause offence.
- 5.4. We will be alive to issues such as everyday sexism, misogyny, homophobia and gender stereotypes and take positive action to build a culture where these are not tolerated, and any occurrences are identified and tackled. We will model positive behaviours. Our pastoral and behaviour policies support all pupils.
- 5.5. Sexual violence and sexual harassment are not acceptable, will never be tolerated and are not an inevitable part of growing up. Any report of sexual violence or sexual harassment will be taken seriously. We will foster an understanding for all pupils of healthy relationships, acceptable behaviour and the right of everyone to equal treatment. This will help to ensure that pupils treat each other well and go on to be respectful and kind adults.
- 5.6. Any occurrence incidents contravening the Equality Act 2010 should be reported to a member of academy staff, who will then follow the appropriate Behaviour Policy when the pupil is on academy premises.
- 5.7. These incidents will be dealt with following the process in our Anti-Bullying Policy or the peer on peer abuse section of the Safeguarding Policy. The principal will decide whether it is appropriate to notify the police or an anti-social behaviour coordinator in their LA of the action taken against a pupil.

## 6. Assessment

- 6.1. We will have the same high expectations of the quality of pupils' work in these subjects as for other curriculum areas. A strong curriculum will build on the knowledge pupils have previously acquired, including in other subjects, with regular feedback provided on pupil progress.
- 6.2. Lessons will be planned to ensure that pupils of differing abilities, including the most able, are suitably challenged. Teaching will be assessed and assessments used to identify where pupils need extra support or intervention.
- 6.3. PSHE is assessed on a termly basis – students complete low stakes quizzes at the start and the end of the term to allow us to address misconceptions. Students also complete a written scenario-based assessment at the end of each term which is graded by their PT as per the academy policy

Letter to parents/carers:

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware that, as a part of your child's educational experience at Ormiston Horizon Academy, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. I am writing to let you know that, throughout the year, your child's tutor group will be taking part in lessons which will focus on Relationships and Sex Education (RSE).

Relationship Education Lessons will include pupils learning about: Healthy and unhealthy relationships, different types of families, managing online relationships, menstruation and puberty, self-esteem and romance, consent, contraception, managing conflict, sexual orientation and gender identity, marriage and divorce, sexually transmitted infections, sharing explicit images ('sexting'), the effects of pornography on relationship expectations, body image and gender stereotyping, parenting skills, relationship myths, relationship/domestic abuse, forced marriage.

This is part of our school's PSHE education programme which is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body. For more detail about our PSHE curriculum offer, please visit the school's website:

<https://ormistonhorizonacademy.co.uk> where you can access curriculum overviews by year group and our Relationships and Sex Education policy. All teaching in PSHE will take place in a safe learning environment and be underpinned by our school ethos and values. A variety of opportunities will be provided for pupils to ask questions in order to prepare them for relationships in the modern world.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents. There will be opportunities throughout the year to find out more about what your child will learn, view the materials and resources being used in lessons and discover how you can best support your child to discuss these topics at home. We will advise you as to when these workshops will take place. You will also receive feedback on your child's engagement with and understanding of the programme.



Ormiston Horizon Academy respects the legal right of parents/carers to withdraw their child from all or part of the RSE programme, except for those statutory parts included in the national curriculum for citizenship, P.E., computing and science. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from RSE lessons, they should put in writing which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in and send this to the academy addressed to the PSHE Lead and Vice Principal.

Before granting any such request the Vice Principal will discuss the request with parents and, where appropriate, with the child to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum. We will document this process to ensure a record is kept. If you have any RSE and Health Education Policy – secondaries 16 concerns or queries about your child's participation in these lessons, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your child's class teacher to discuss these.

Yours faithfully,

L Nield  
PSHE Lead

## Appendix 1

### Science, Citizenship, PE, Computing national curriculum

In accordance with the DfE's 'Relationship and Sex Education and Health Education Statutory Guidance' 2019, there are certain aspects of the subjects which are compulsory for pupils to learn.

#### National curriculum in England: **Science** programmes of study - Updated 6 May 2015

<b>1. KS3 Pupils should be taught about:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1. reproduction in humans (as an example of a mammal), including the structure and function of the male and female reproductive systems, menstrual cycle (without details of hormones), gametes, fertilisation, gestation and birth, to include the effect of maternal lifestyle on the foetus through the placenta</li> <li>1.2. reproduction in plants, including flower structure, wind and insect pollination, fertilisation, seed and fruit formation and dispersal, including quantitative investigation of some dispersal mechanisms</li> <li>1.3. the effects of recreational drugs (including substance misuse) on behaviour, health and life processes</li> </ul>
<b>2. KS4 Pupils should be taught about:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1. the relationship between health and disease</li> <li>2.2. communicable diseases including sexually transmitted infections in humans (including HIV/AIDs)</li> <li>2.3. non-communicable diseases</li> <li>2.4. bacteria, viruses and fungi as pathogens in animals and plants</li> <li>2.5. body defenses against pathogens and the role of the immune system against disease</li> <li>2.6. reducing and preventing the spread of infectious diseases in animals and plants</li> <li>2.7. the process of discovery and development of new medicines</li> <li>2.8. the impact of lifestyle factors on the incidence of non-communicable diseases</li> <li>2.9. principles of nervous coordination and control in humans</li> <li>2.10. the relationship between the structure and function of the human nervous system</li> <li>2.11. the relationship between structure and function in a reflex arc</li> <li>2.12. principles of hormonal coordination and control in humans</li> <li>2.13. hormones in human reproduction, hormonal and non-hormonal methods of contraception</li> <li>2.14. homeostasis</li> </ul>

**National curriculum in England: **Citizenship** programmes of study for key stages 3 and 4 -  
Published 11 September 2013**

**3. Key stage 3 Pupils should be taught about:**

- 3.1. the development of the political system of democratic government in the United Kingdom, including the roles of citizens, Parliament and the monarch
- 3.2. the operation of Parliament, including voting and elections, and the role of political parties
- 3.3. the precious liberties enjoyed by the citizens of the United Kingdom
- 3.4. the nature of rules and laws and the justice system, including the role of the police and the operation of courts and tribunals
- 3.5. the roles played by public institutions and voluntary groups in society, and the ways in which citizens work together to improve their communities, including opportunities to participate in school-based activities
- 3.6. the functions and uses of money, the importance and practice of budgeting, and managing risk

**4. Key stage 4 Pupils should be taught about:**

- 4.1. parliamentary democracy and the key elements of the constitution of the United Kingdom, including the power of government, the role of citizens and Parliament in holding those in power to account, and the different roles of the executive, legislature and judiciary and a free press
- 4.2. the different electoral systems used in and beyond the United Kingdom and actions citizens can take in democratic and electoral processes to influence decisions locally, nationally and beyond
- 4.3. other systems and forms of government, both democratic and non-democratic, beyond the United Kingdom
- 4.4. local, regional and international governance and the United Kingdom's relations with the rest of Europe, the Commonwealth, the United Nations and the wider world
- 4.5. human rights and international law
- 4.6. the legal system in the UK, different sources of law and how the law helps society deal with complex problems
- 4.7. diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding
- 4.8. the different ways in which a citizen can contribute to the improvement of their community, to include the opportunity to participate actively in community volunteering, as well as other forms of responsible activity
- 4.9. income and expenditure, credit and debt, insurance, savings and pensions, financial products and services, and how public money is raised and spent

**National curriculum in England: **Computing** programmes of study - Published 11 September 2013**

<b>5. Key stage 3 Pupils should be taught to:</b>
5.1. understand a range of ways to use technology safely, respectfully, responsibly and securely, including protecting their online identity and privacy; recognise inappropriate content, contact and conduct, and know how to report concerns
<b>6. Key stage 4 All pupils should be taught to:</b>
6.1. understand how changes in technology affect safety, including new ways to protect their online privacy and identity, and how to report a range of concerns

**National curriculum in England: **PE** programmes of study - Published 11 September 2013**

<b>7. Key stage 3 Pupils should be taught to:</b>
7.1. use a range of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in direct competition through team and individual games [for example, badminton, basketball, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rounders, rugby and tennis]
7.2. develop their technique and improve their performance in other competitive sports [for example, athletics and gymnastics]
7.3. perform dances using advanced dance techniques in a range of dance styles and forms
7.4. take part in outdoor and adventurous activities which present intellectual and physical challenges and be encouraged to work in a team, building on trust and developing skills to solve problems, either individually or as a group
7.5. analyse their performances compared to previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best
7.6. take part in competitive sports and activities outside school through community links or sports clubs

**8. Key stage 4 Pupils should be taught to:**

- 8.1. use and develop a variety of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in team and individual games [for example, badminton, basketball, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rounders, rugby and tennis]
- 8.2. develop their technique and improve their performance in other competitive sports [for example, athletics and gymnastics] or other physical activities [for example, dance]
- 8.3. take part in further outdoor and adventurous activities in a range of environments which present intellectual and physical challenges and which encourage pupils to work in a team, building on trust and developing skills to solve problems, either individually or as a group
- 8.4. evaluate their performances compared to previous ones and demonstrate improvement across a range of physical activities to achieve their personal best
- 8.5. continue to take part regularly in competitive sports and activities outside school through community links or sports clubs