



Relationship and Sex Education Policy

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Reviewed:

Next review: September 2025



Aims

The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE) at The Davenport School are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of the physical development of their bodies
- To help pupils to care for and respect their bodies
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- To promote healthy friendships and explore different types of relationships
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

Curriculum Intent

The RSE curriculum at The Davenport School is an integral part of the PSHE curriculum and meets the statutory requirements of Relationship and Health Education, focusing on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

Sex education is not taught as part of our curriculum. If it is felt that any pupil requires personalised teaching about elements of sex education, this is discussed and agreed with the professional network and additional 1:1 teaching is provided by the Ethelbert Children's Services Health Promotions Specialist.

Many of the pupils at The Davenport School have experienced adverse childhood experiences, and the majority are looked after. As such, many of the topics explored in SRE education can be emotive and staff must be sensitive in their delivery and carefully scaffold discussions and debates during lessons. Staff must also be aware that some topics and discussions may lead to the disclosure of a safeguarding issues and be mindful of the school safeguarding policy.

Staff must use their professional judgement and personal knowledge of the child when discussing formal and informal SRE topics. Information and answers are provided according to the age and maturity of the pupil.

PSHE and SRE lessons are delivered by Class Teachers and HLTAs through a range of teaching methods. The curriculum meets the statutory expectations of the PSHE Association and is thematically organised using the following headings:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Living in the Wider World
- Relationships Education

Roles and Responsibilities

Head of Education Services:

Head of Education Services, Gordon Shaw, will approve the RSE policy and hold the Head Teacher to account for its implementation.

The Head Teacher and Teacher in Charge:

The Head Teacher and Teacher in Charge are responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school.

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSE in a sensitive way.
- Modelling positive attitudes to SRE.
- Monitoring progress.
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils.

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE, staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the Head Teacher.

Pupils:

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.
