Sex and Relationships Policy

Aims

Effective Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is a key component in our approach to safeguarding; we will support the RSE policy delivered by the main education provider.

RSE, as part of the Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PSHE education curriculum), is vital to the development of the young people at our provision. Any planned programmes are designed to help them deal with the difficult moral, social and health-related issues that arise in their lives and in society. They also help them to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy, independent lives as individuals, parents, workers and members of society.

We define 'relationships and sex education' as learning about physical, moral and emotional development that students need to understand their own and others sexuality. Whilst knowledge of biology and the reproductive system is important, RSE is concerned with attitudes and values, personal and social skills, respect for self and others, family, stable loving relationships, feelings, gender roles and decision-making. It is about the physical, emotional, social, moral and legal dimensions of human sexuality as well as factual teaching about sex, sexuality and sexual health. We believe, for some young people, it is important to address this area of the curriculum because students have a universal entitlement to learning that will enable them to live safe, fulfilled and healthy lives.

Parents/carers and the main school setting will be consulted and will have to give their permission should RSE be delivered to a student.

Our work will supplement the RSE work already being delivered by the main education provider. We will act to protect children and young people from concerns raised, reporting directly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) at the main school setting and New Roots Workshop.

What we promote

The New Roots Workshop CIC will work to promote Resilience, Respect and Opportunity. In this way our provision values the qualities of stable relationships, marriage and family life, without bias to any family structure.

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Curriculum

We will support the main school provision of RSE/PHSE where we can be the key workers at New Roots Workshop CIC. Controversial topics will be covered with sensitivity and respect for all viewpoints. We will not tell young people what is right and wrong but consider different perspectives and provide young people with the information to make their own decisions.

Through the main education providers New Roots Workshop CIC will endeavour to support RSE topics raised by young people via ongoing conversations, further supporting the main education providers curriculum.

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life taking care to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, or Questioning (LGBTQ) parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst other structures) along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

Roles and responsibilities

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Supporting RSE delivery in a sensitive way.
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSE.
- Monitoring progress.
- Responding to the needs of the young person.
- Responding appropriately to those young people whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory/non-science components of RSE.

Staff who have concerns about discussing RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the DSL.

Young People

When discussing issues related to RSE young people are encouraged to treat others with respect and sensitivity.

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Parents' right to withdraw

Parents' have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory/non-science components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, New Roots Workshop CIC will arrange this.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the students' main school setting and New Roots Workshop CIC.

Training

We may also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff delivering RSE if required.

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Appendix 1:

Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS

Name of child:	
New Roots Workshop CIC / School	
Name of parent/carer:	
Date:	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education:	
Signed (patent/carer):	

Policy Information

Responsible Person	**Wayne Stewart**
Date	**03/09/2026**
Review Date	**03/09/2027**
Review frequency	**Annually**
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