

Sex and Relationship Policy Statement

Policy statement

Simply Great Education (SGE) believes high-quality relationships and sex education are essential to school-age education. It supports young people's development and prepares them for adult life so students can make responsible and well-informed decisions.

The DfE's guidance, 'Relationships, Sex and Health Education Guidance 2019', defines this programme as: 'Learning about physical, moral, and emotional development; understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and health.' Any programme offered should be taught objectively so as not to promote any form of sexual orientation.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is **not** taught in any of our core computer science courses; however, it is possible that guidance is offered through our pastoral curriculum. We are fully supportive of the DfE's concern about growing child sexual exploitation, and we believe that, as such, RSE is more important than ever. There are no planned opportunities for RSE; however, tutors will address questions from students, as and when they occur, if they are deemed pertinent to understanding and age-appropriate.

Scope and purpose

- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students so that they may make healthy and safe life choices.
- To prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life so that they may positively contribute to society.
- Consider a range of values and moral issues, including the importance of family life.
- To help students understand the biological facts related to human growth and development, including reproduction.
- To focus on the importance of healthy relationships.
- To demonstrate and encourage personal responsibility and positive and informed choice.
- To encourage high self-esteem and respect for others.

Legislation and Department for Education guidance

Our policy is underpinned by and compliant with:

- DfE Relationship, Sex and Health Education Guidance 2019
- Children and Social Work Bill 1 March 2017, which came into full effect from September 2019 (making relationship education statutory)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019
- Equality Act 2010

Confidentiality and safeguarding

Tutors understand that confidentiality during RSE discussions must be acknowledged so that young people feel that they are in a 'safe space' where they can ask questions. Staff understand, however, the need to report immediately (in line with the Child Protection Policy) any concerns such as children displaying age-inappropriate knowledge or interest in sex or expressing views that may indicate a lack of respect for the safety and self-esteem of others.

Promoting positive behaviour and equality

As well as informing our learners about the Equality Act (2010) and the rights of people recognised as having protected characteristics, SGE will constantly promote and uphold an environment of equality. Sexism, homophobia and any form of discrimination will not be tolerated and young people will be challenged to communicate in appropriate language and have regard for the rights of others. All staff will constantly role-model the highest professional standards, having equal unconditional positive regard for all individuals.

Monitoring and reviewing

RSE will be monitored by the Director of Provision continually and adjusted as necessary to reflect the local and national context. The policy will be formally reviewed on an annual basis.