

# Ark Putney Academy

## Sex and Relationships Policy

### Purpose

This policy provides a detailed description of the responsibilities for staff and governors involved in delivering Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in school. It complies with statutory requirements for RSE Education for schools in England. This policy should be published on school websites as part of the statutory requirement.

Date of last review:	September 2022	Author:	Assistant Headteacher
Date of next review:	January 2023	Owner:	Education Directors
Type of policy:	Tailored by school	Approval:	Management
School:	Ark Putney Academy	Key Contact Name:	Assistant Head: KS3
Key Contact Email:	e.gelder@arkputneyacademy.org	Key Contact Phone:	N/A

### **Positioning within Ark Operational Model**

Component	Element
Culture, Ethos + Wellbeing Pathways + Enrichments	Relationships and Sex Education

### **Named personnel with delegated responsibility for RSE:**

**Assistant Principal – Ms E. Gelder – e.gelder@arkputneyacademy.org**

**Assistant Principal – Mr A. Knight – a.knight@arkputneyacademy.org**

**Vice Principal – Ms L. Stone – l.stone@arkputneyacademy.org**

## **Intent**

Our RSE Curriculum encourages a willingness and positive contribution to academy life and beyond, with the courage to support others to do the same.

1. To promote *commitment* by:
  - equipping students with the knowledge, skills, and character traits required for them to realise their ambitions.
  - Ensuring that students have access to age-appropriate information free from stereotyping or discrimination.
2. To promote *effort* by:
  - providing students with the want to learn more about relationships, sex, and health education.
  - providing an RSE curriculum that has a positive impact on self esteem and enables our students to have positive views on relationships, sexuality, and sex
3. To promote *independence* by:
  - ensuring students make safe choices in the physical and online world and know how to respond if they become unsafe.
4. To promote *Teamwork* by:
  - ensuring students form positive beliefs, values and attitudes and encourage their peers to do so.
5. To promote community by:
  - embedding a culture of personal and mutual acceptance and respect.
  - ensuring students develop a view of the world that reflects the diverse society in which we live and that is representative of all faiths and none.

## **Development of the policy**

The school's approach to the delivery of RSE is informed by:

- Department for Education guidance on the teaching of relationships and sex education and healthy education 2019 [here](#)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2021 [here](#)
- Government Guidance on sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges, 2018, [here](#)
- Student voice activities following the UK Government review into sexual abuse in schools, 2021
- The School's strategy for the prevention of and response to peer on peer sexual violence and harassment, 2021
- Feedback from parents, following an initial consultation in the academic year 2020-21
- Further consultation with parents in the academic year 2022-2023

## **Definition of relationships and sex education :**

Based on the 2019 DfE guidance, AGFS defines relationships and sex education as:

- Knowledge of the range of relationships that exist, how these are formed and their role in the development of long-term happiness
- Knowledge and skills required to build and sustain respectful relationships, free of stereotypes, including friendships, intimate and sexual relationships and sexual health
- Knowledge and skills required to stay safe online
- Knowledge of the Law related to sex, relationships and young people.

## **Implementation**

Relationships, Sex and Health education are delivered through the following aspects of school life.

The UK Government outlines the subject content for relationships, sex and health [here](#).

- Weekly 50-minute Personal Development Lesson
- Tutor Time- issues linked to current affairs
- Drop Down Days
- Whole School Assemblies
- Science Curriculum
- Year Team Assemblies

Those who take ownership for the planning and delivery of RSE.

- Head of Year
- Form Tutor
- Science Staff
- Assembly Lead- SLT and HOD

Where possible external agencies visit the school to provide age-appropriate sessions.

As an Academy we ensure that all students can access the material delivered. Where students have additional needs, adaptations take place.

- Scaffolding when discussing complex issues.
- Scaffolding when completing complex activities.
- Using our T and L strategies increase level of checking for understanding i.e MWB.
- All sessions are delivered with a coloured background to support Dyslexia.
- Students with EHCP will have lessons and resources adapted in line with the SEN provision stated in their EHCP.

## Impact

The RSE curriculum at Ark Putney Academy operates a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of discrimination and harassment.

Based on feedback from the Regional Director we feel confident that:

- RSE is delivered consistently
- Students respect the space and are bought in to the process
- Teaching and Learning Strategies are used in the delivery of RSE across the Academy
- Climate for learning in these lessons feel safe and deliberate.

In a recent student survey, the question “I have a safe adult that I can go to with a problem” scored a 6.3 (1=lowest,8=highest).

Throughout the Year student panels (age-appropriate) are held to evaluate the impact of the RSE curriculum asking the following questions:

- What behaviours are expected of students at APA?
- Are you confident that if you report an incident it will be dealt with by a member of staff?
- Do you feel safe at APA?
- Do you know how to stay safe online?
- Can you describe what a healthy relationship looks like at different levels?
- Do you know the legal ages for social media apps?
- Do you know the legal ages for consent?
- Do you know the legal ages for engaging in sexual activity in the UK?

## APA Link with Parent and Carers

Ark Putney wants to ensure that parents and carers see our RSE provision as supportive and complementary to their teaching as parents at home.

Parents have the right to request that their child is withdrawn from all or some of this content.

Withdrawal from Sex Education is the parents’ right up until the child turns 16. Post 16 it is the student’s choice as to whether they continue or are withdrawn.

There is no right to withdraw from relationships education or health education. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact [e.gelder@arkputneyacademy.org](mailto:e.gelder@arkputneyacademy.org)