



Da Vinci Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

Relationships, Health and Sex Education (R.S.H.E) Policy



L.E.A.D. Academy Trust

Lead • Empower • Achieve • Drive

Policy Date: September 2024

Policy Statement

Introduction

This statement sets out the legal framework, the definitions and our policy expectations.

L.E.A.D. Academy Trust requires this policy to be implemented by all its member academies, adapted to meet the needs of individual contexts and cohorts.

The L.E.A.D. ethos is that effective personal development is crucial to the rounded education provided to our pupils. Every child should have access to effective Health, Sex and Relationship Education.

L.E.A.D. Academy Trust defines the policy expectation, but the responsibility for implementation of the policy rests with the Head teacher of each academy.

This policy outlines the commitment to provide effective Relationships, Sex and Health Education for all pupils in support of that offered by parents, who are the first educators of their children in this area. It has been written with regard to the DfE Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSHE) and Health Education guidance 2019 and statutory requirements.

In developing our policy and curriculum we have given due regard to the government's statutory guidance for RSHE issued under Section 80A of the Education Act 2002 and section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

RSHE teaching contributes to our statutory duty to safeguard children and prepare them for the responsibilities and experiences of adult life. RSHE will be taught in an age-appropriate manner throughout each Academy within the Trust.

Legal Framework

Updated guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-RSHE-and-health-education>

Academies' Funding Agreements require academies to have regard to [DfE's statutory guidance on sex and relationship education](#)

Duty to promote wellbeing (Children Act 2004)

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/contents>

Please note: This policy should be read in conjunction with our policies on Safeguarding & Child Protection, Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and Equality

Definition

RSHE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. Through RSHE pupils learn about healthy relationships, diversity, respect, love and commitment, healthy lifestyles, safety both on and offline, puberty, sex, sexuality and sexual health. There is often concern that RSHE will encourage sexual experimentation however evidence shows that those who receive comprehensive RSHE at school are more likely to delay their first sexual activity and to use contraception when they do have sex.

At secondary level we are building on the foundations of skills and knowledge that pupils have learnt at primary school. Our key aim in providing RSHE throughout the school is to safeguard our pupils. During their time at this school pupils will learn key knowledge and skills to help keep themselves, and others, safe, healthy, and prepare them for the responsibilities of adult life.

At L.E.A.D. Academy Trust, all academies should ensure that any sex education programme designed and implemented, is age appropriate and is tailored to the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils, and should be aligned with the model policies issued by the relevant local authority. The policy will equally be outlined and shared with the relevant stakeholders and parents.

Why RSHE is important in our school

Relationships and Sex Education (RSHE) at Da Vinci Academy

The aim of RSHE is to give young people the information needed to develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships. Effective RSHE does not encourage early sexual experimentation but teaches young people to understand human sexuality and respect themselves and others.

Knowledge about safer sex and sexual health remains important to ensure young people can make safe, informed and healthy choices as they progress to adult life. Pupils will also be given opportunities to understand how healthy relationships can benefit their own mental wellbeing and self-respect.

There will be opportunities for pupils to learn about the laws surrounding sex, sexuality, sexual health and gender identity which will be delivered in an age appropriate and inclusive way. The laws around a variety of other issues will be considered which include: marriage, consent, pornography, abortion, radicalisation and gangs. There will also be opportunities to learn about grooming, sexual exploitation and domestic abuse which should include addressing coercive and controlling behaviour. The physical and emotional damage that can be caused by female genital mutilation (FGM) will also be addressed.

We work hard in school to ensure that all pupils have a standard of education which supports the key aspects needed to keep safe and make positive, informed and healthy choices.

Key Objectives

Our RSHE programme will focus on three elements:

- Exploring attitudes and values
- Developing skills
- Improving knowledge and understanding

We aim to develop well-rounded individuals who respect themselves and others, are able to communicate effectively and take responsibility for their actions.

The key objectives of our RSHE programme are to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of what positive and healthy relationships look like and the skills to form nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships
- Enable pupils to recognise unhealthy relationships and abuse and have the knowledge and skills to seek help for themselves or others
- Give pupils the knowledge and skills to make informed, healthy decisions about their mental and physical health
- Prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life
- Develop an awareness and understanding of relevant laws, for example those around consent, sexual violence, rape, drugs, and image-sharing
- Develop knowledge and understanding of human sexuality and sexual health, including Sexually Transmitted Infections, sexual orientation, contraception and reasons for delaying sexual activity
- Support pupils to develop a positive sense of their own identity, showing respect for themselves and others, and having resilience
- Support pupils to keep safe, both online and offline, including assessing the risks and benefits of their actions and recognising that pressures and influences come from a range of sources
- Provide pupils with the knowledge and skills to access appropriate support

The RSHE programme is based on the needs of pupils in the school with learning outcomes appropriate to their age, ability and level of maturity.

Aspects of Coverage/ Concepts

The following aspects and concepts will be covered within the RSHE guidance published in June 2019 (last updated 2021).

Concepts within the Curriculum	
Families	Respectful relationships, including friendships
Online and media	Being safe
Intimate and sexual relationships including sexual health	Basic First Aid
Physical health and fitness	Internet safety & harms
Drugs alcohol & tobacco	Healthy eating
Health and Prevention	Changing adolescent body
Mental wellbeing	

The Curriculum/ Implementation:

RSHE will be taught in each year group throughout the school. The curriculum we deliver is age-appropriate and progressive, building the pupil's knowledge, understanding and skills year on year.

Approach to RSHE at Da Vinci Academy

The school's approach to delivering RSHE consists of:

- The taught National Curriculum Science Programme of Study.
- RSHE and Safeguarding modules within each year group delivered as part of the Personal Development programme.
- A responsive week every half term which focus on current RSHE and Safeguarding needs of our students.
- Computing lessons which focus on online safety
- Pastoral support for students who experience difficulties.
- Provision of appropriate information through leaflets and books in the library and display of posters.
- Delivery of RSHE content during inspiration days.
- Targeted events throughout the academic year.
- The assembly programme.
- Student leaders and anti-bullying ambassadors to promote core elements as part of their leadership responsibilities.

By the end of secondary school:

We must continue to develop knowledge on topics specified for primary as required and in addition cover the following content by the end of secondary:

What	When
That there are different types of committed, stable relationships	All year groups in PD
How these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children.	Year 8, 9, & 11 in PD
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	Year 8, 9 & 11 in PD
Why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
The characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD

The roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
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.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
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.	Year 7, 8 & 9 in PD
Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships	Year 7, 8 & 9 in PD
How stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice).	Year 7, 8 & 9 in PD
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.	All Year Groups in PD
About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help	All year groups in PD
That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control.	All year groups in PD
What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable.	All year groups in PD
The legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected	All year groups in PD

characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal.	
Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online.	All year groups in PD
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.	All year groups in PD
Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them.	All year groups in PD
What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online	All year groups in PD
The impact of viewing harmful content.	Year 7 & 8 in Computing Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
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.	Year 7 & 8 in Computing Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail.	Year 7 & 8 in Computing Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online.	Year 7 in Computing
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.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
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).	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
How to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships,	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD

which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship.	
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.	Year 9 , 10 & 11 in PD
The facts about reproductive health, including fertility, and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women and menopause.	Year 7 & 10 in Science Year 10 & 11 in PD
That there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others.	Year 9 , 10 & 11 in PD
That they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex.	Year 9 , 10 & 11 in PD
The facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available.	Year 9 , 10 & 11 in PD and Science
The facts around pregnancy including miscarriage.	Year 9 , 10 & 11 in PD
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)	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD Year 7 and 10 in Science
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.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
About the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
How the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour.	Year 8, 9 & 11 in PD
How to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment.	Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 in PD

Since RSHE incorporates the development of self-esteem and relationships, pupils' learning does not just take place through the taught curriculum but through all aspects of school life, including the playground. It is important then that all staff understand they have a responsibility to implement this policy and promote the aims of the Academy at any time they are dealing with pupils.

Physical health and mental wellbeing at Da Vinci Academy

Pupils will be taught to make well informed, positive choices for themselves that seek to support their own health and wellbeing. There will be opportunities for teaching pupils about problems and challenges, including more serious mental and physical health conditions such as substance and alcohol misuse, with a focus on providing information about effective interventions. We will also teach pupils about issues such as eating disorders. Teachers will also demonstrate awareness of common adverse childhood experiences such as bereavement, family breakdown and exposure to domestic abuse, and how these might impact on pupils and influence how they experience these subjects. Pupils will be taught how to judge when they or someone they know needs support and where they can seek help if needed.

By the end of secondary school:

We should continue to develop knowledge on topics specified for primary as required and in addition cover the following content by the end of secondary:

What	When
How to talk about their emotions accurately and sensitively, using appropriate vocabulary.	All Years in PD
That happiness is linked to being connected to others.	All Years in PD
How to recognise the early signs of mental wellbeing concerns.	All Years in PD
Common types of mental ill health (e.g. anxiety and depression).	All Years in PD
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.	All Years in PD
The benefits and importance of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation and voluntary and service-based activities on mental wellbeing and happiness.	Year 7, 8 & 11 in PD
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 information is targeted at them and how to be a discerning consumer of information online.	All Year groups in PD

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.	All Years in PD
The positive associations between physical activity and promotion of mental wellbeing, including as an approach to combat stress.	Year 7, 8 & 11 in PD
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 cardiovascular ill-health.	Year 7, 8 & 11 in PD
About the science relating to blood, organ and stem cell donation.	All year groups in Science
How to maintain healthy eating and the links between a poor diet and health risks, including tooth decay and cancer.	Year 8 Science Year 7, 8 & 9 in Food Nutrition
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.	All year groups in Science Year 9,10 & 11 in PD
The law relating to the supply and possession of illegal substances.	Year 8 & 9 in PD
The physical and psychological risks associated with alcohol consumption and what constitutes low risk alcohol consumption in adulthood.	All year Groups in PD
The physical and psychological consequences of addiction, including alcohol dependency.	All year Groups in PD and Science
Awareness of the dangers of drugs which are prescribed but still present serious health risks.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD
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.	All year groups in PD
About personal hygiene, germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread, treatment and prevention of infection, and about antibiotics.	Year 7 & 9 Science
About dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including healthy eating and regular check-ups at the dentist.	Year 8 & 9 in Science
(Late secondary) the benefits of regular self-examination and screening.	Year 10 & 11 in PD
The facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination.	Year 8 & 9 in Science
The importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and how a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.	Year 9, 10 & 11 in PD

Basic treatment for common injuries.	All year groups in PD
Life-saving skills, including how to administer CPR.	All year groups in PD
The purpose of defibrillators and when one might be needed.	All year groups in PD
Key facts about puberty, the changing adolescent body and menstrual wellbeing.	Year 7, 8 & in PD Year 7 and 10 in Science
The main changes which take place in males and females, and the implications for emotional and physical health.	Year 7, 8 & in PD Year 7 and 10 in Science

Teaching and Learning

Everyone involved in the teaching of RSHE will follow the school policy. The personal beliefs and attitudes of teachers will not influence the teaching of RSHE. The approach to the teaching of this subject matter is rooted in education, rather than beliefs or emotion. A balanced and non-judgmental approach will therefore be taken. Teachers, and all those contributing to RSHE will work to the agreed values within this policy.

Within RSHE pupils will develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about relationships, keeping safe, health, puberty and sex. To achieve this, a number of teaching strategies may be used, including:

- Establishing ground rules with pupils
- Dealing with children's questions in an appropriate manner
- Using discussion and the appropriate materials
- Encouraging reflection and honest student voice through regular student surveys.
- Summative assessment each half term.
- Use strategies for pupils who may not wish to raise suggestions in front of others e.g. a question (ballot style) box.

Equality, Inclusion and Support

We are required to comply with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. Our school values diversity, encourages respect for all and promotes tolerance for, and celebration of, difference. We do not discriminate against pupils because of any protected characteristic (age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership, or sexual orientation). At times, when there is an identified need, we may take positive action through our planning and delivery of RSHE to deal with disadvantages facing those with a particular characteristic.

RSHE will be accessible to all regardless of their gender. Through the delivery of RSHE teachers will explore gender stereotypes and how they may limit a person's potential and ensure that people of all genders receive information that is relevant to their needs.

There are many different faith and cultural perspectives on aspects of RSHE. As a school we will deliver RSHE in a factual, non-judgmental way ensuring that teachers do not promote one faith or cultural viewpoint but rather provide a balanced approach that acknowledges the wealth of views

and opinions of our community and teaches tolerance. At times in our programme we will explore different faith perspectives. Parents and carers are key partners in RSHE and are best placed to support their children to understand how learning at school fits with their family's faith, beliefs and values. To support this process we will ensure that parents are made aware of what will be taught in our RSHE programme and when.

We will use a range of materials and resources that reflect the diversity of our school population and encourage acceptance and tolerance. We want every pupil and family to feel included, celebrated, respected and valued.

Teachers will plan in different ways and use a variety of teaching strategies to meet the needs of individuals. For some pupils, particularly those with special educational needs and disabilities, a differentiated approach may be necessary to ensure learning outcomes are met – this will be shared with parents/carers and a plan developed. Some pupils may have experienced adverse childhood experiences that may impact on their ability to engage with RSHE in a variety of ways. Care will be taken to ensure that, where this is the case parents/carers are consulted about the most appropriate way for the pupil to access the curriculum.

A range of different families and relationships will be explored within RSHE, including same-sex relationships. Referencing a range of relationships will be integral to our programme of RSHE. All pupils whatever their identity, developing identity, or family background need to feel that RSHE is relevant to them and sensitive to their needs. This means that resources and books used will reflect both our school community and wider society.

SEND

Teachers will plan in different ways and use a variety of teaching strategies to meet the needs of individuals. For some children, particularly those with special educational needs and disabilities, a tailored approach may be necessary to ensure learning outcomes are met – this will be discussed with parents/carers and based upon the individual needs of the pupil, prior to the session.

Vulnerable Pupils

Some pupils may have experienced adverse childhood experiences that may impact on their ability to engage with RSHE in a variety of ways. Care will be taken to ensure that, where this is the case, parents/carers are consulted about the most appropriate way for the pupil to access the curriculum.

Safe Learning in RSHE

It is important that all pupils feel safe and able to participate in RSHE lessons. To support the involvement of all pupils, teachers will use a range of teaching strategies and ensure that pupils are aware of the expectations before beginning each session.

As with any topic, pupils will ask questions during RSHE to further their understanding. Due to the sensitive nature of the topic, teachers will employ strategies to ensure that questions are asked and answered in a factual, balanced and age-appropriate way.

When pupils can write independently, pupils may be introduced to the 'question box', into which they can place their written questions. This allows the teacher the opportunity to group questions

into themes and filter any that may need answering on an individual basis or, in some cases, referred to parents. All staff will be mindful of their safeguarding role and will follow the relevant Academy procedures if a question raises concerns of this nature.

Teachers will use the following strategies to deal with unexpected questions:

- If a question is personal, the teacher will remind pupils of the rules and expectations.
- If the teacher doesn't know the answer to a question, the teacher will acknowledge this and will research the question and provide an appropriate answer later.
- If the question is too explicit, is outside set parameters, is inappropriate in a whole class setting or raises concerns about sexual abuse, the teacher will attend to it on an individual basis which may involve informing parents.

Sometimes pupils may ask questions about issues that are not part of the planned programme, this could show that the taught curriculum is not meeting their needs. This will be fed back to the leader as part of the evaluation and monitoring process.

External speakers

External speakers may be used to enhance the delivery of RSHE. All external speakers deliver in line with our RSHE policy and safeguarding procedures.

- be suitably qualified to deliver RSHE sessions
- be aware of the school policy on RSHE and work within this
- be supervised by a member of staff at all times when on school premises
- alert the teacher to any safeguarding concerns
- understand their contribution they make to the broader RSHE programme
- be suitably vetted prior to being booked

Staff Training

All staff delivering RSHE will complete regular modules and take part in weekly training sessions familiar with this policy. If a staff member has additional learning and development needs, these will be supported either through mentoring from a more experienced staff member in the Academy, team-teaching, observations, or attendance at an internal or external training event.

Assessment and Review

Teachers use a range of assessment strategies to track pupils' progress towards our published learning outcomes. Summative assessments are completed half termly and are recorded on Go4Schools.

The Role of Parents

RSHE is a partnership between the Academy and parents/carers. We recognise that in RSHE, parents and carers play a core role and we therefore welcome their engagement with our programme. It is important that RSHE delivered within the Academy is explored in more detail within the context of individual families. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our Academy through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective we:

- Inform parents routinely about the Academy's RSHE policy and practice (prospectus/letters/emails/ website)
- Answer any questions that parents may have about the RSHE of their child
- Take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for RSHE in the Academy
- Conduct consultation as required about any needs in relation to our RSHE programme and policy

Any parents wanting more information about our RSHE curriculum can contact Kimberley Bradshaw (Designated Safeguarding Lead).

Right to withdraw from Sex Education

Whilst we always try to work with parents to explore their views, we also accept that parents can exercise their right to excuse their child from the sex education elements of our programme (other than that which comes within the Science curriculum). There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education. The RSHE we provide is planned to meet the needs of all pupils and give them the knowledge and skills they need to lead healthy lives. This avoids them receiving less accurate, second-hand information from peers if they do not access this education.

To request that a pupil be excused from Sex Education parents should contact the head teacher via nat.wiles@davinciacademy.co.uk. The head teacher will arrange to speak with parents to explore their views and ensure that the nature and purpose of RSHE is understood. A written record will be kept of this discussion. Except in exceptional circumstances the school will respect a parent's right to excuse their child up until three terms before a pupil's 16th birthday when the child can choose to be included in Sex Education. The process above is the same for pupils with SEND, however in exceptional circumstances the head teacher may take account of a pupil's specific needs arising from their SEND when agreeing or not any application to be excused.

Teachers will plan appropriate, purposeful education for pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

Resources

As with any other subject, the breadth of the RSHE curriculum necessitates the use of a wide variety of age-appropriate activities, booklets and resources.

If you would like to discuss any of the resources used in more detail please contact Kimberley Bradshaw (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Confidentiality, Safeguarding and Child Protection

Everyone involved in RSHE will be clear about the boundaries of their legal and professional roles and responsibilities. Teachers will discuss confidentiality with pupils, making it clear that teachers cannot offer unconditional confidentiality. Pupils will be informed that if confidentiality has to be broken, due to safeguarding concerns, they will be informed first and then supported as appropriate.

Teachers will be aware that effective RSHE, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable, can lead to disclosure of a child protection issue. Everyone involved in RSHE will be alert to signs of abuse and report concerns or suspicions to the Designated Safeguarding Lead as outlined in the safeguarding policy.

Support for Students

The school takes its role in the promotion of student welfare seriously. Staff endeavour to make themselves approachable and to provide caring and sensitive pastoral support for students in a number of ways. Staff may be approached for help on an individual basis and through the tutorial system they offer a listening ear and, where appropriate, information and advice. The school nurse offers a health and support service to students which can be accessed through a CPOA referral or through the weekly drop ins. Where appropriate, students are referred to additional programmes run by school health or the locality workers such as health/unhealthy relationships. The school will keep up to date about the development of local services and national help lines for young people promote their existence to students and endeavour to form working relationships with local agencies that are relevant to student needs.

Menstrual Wellbeing

Pupils who are menstruating will be supported in the following ways:

- Sanitary disposal units are available in female and unisex/accessible toilets
- Pupils can access emergency sanitary products from Reception
- For those experiencing period poverty free sanitary protection can be accessed from Reception

The Role of the Head Teacher

It is the responsibility of the Head teacher to ensure that:

- Parents and staff are informed about the academy's RSHE policy.
- Policy is implemented effectively.
- Members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.
- This policy is monitored on a regular basis and reports are made to governors on the effectiveness of the policy.

Concerns/ Complaints

If you would like to discuss our provision of RSHE further please contact Nat Wiles (Assistant Headteacher Personal Development)

Confidentiality

Confidentiality within the classroom is an important component of Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSHE) and Health Education and teachers are expected to respect the confidentiality of their pupils as far as is possible.

Teachers must, however, alert the DSL about any suspicions of inappropriate behaviour or potential abuse as per the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy if the concern is related to another child or person outside of the school. If the concern is about a member of staff the Headteacher should be alerted.

Monitoring and evaluation

It is the responsibility of Kimberley Bradshaw (DSL) and Nat Wiles (Assistant Headteacher: Personal Development) to oversee the monitoring and evaluation of the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSHE) and Health Education programme.

The views of students and teachers who deliver the programme are used to make changes and improvements to the programme on an ongoing basis.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by Kimberley Bradshaw (SDSL) and Nat Wiles (Assistant Headteacher: Personal Development), Headteacher and governors.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is **July 2025**.

This policy will also be reviewed in light of any changes to statutory guidance, feedback from parents, staff or pupils, and issues in the school or local area that may need addressing.

The governing board is responsible for approving this policy.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all staff, parents and, where necessary, pupils.