

# Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy Consultation

## Background

1. This consultation seeks your views on our RSE Policy from September 2020, in line with requirements from the Department for Education (DfE).
2. In June 2019, the DfE published “Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education” (June 2019). This guidance:
  - a. Makes it compulsory for all schools to have an RSE Policy and to consult parents and carers in the development of that policy;
  - b. Sets out the topics that need to be taught to students by the end of secondary schools; and
  - c. Makes changes to the right of parents or carers to withdraw their child from the elements of sex education that are not taught as part of the compulsory national science curriculum.
3. These and other topics are covered in our RSE Policy and RSE Curriculum. The new requirements formalise expectations but don't make significant changes to what we teach our students. Many of the topics required by the DfE were already taught as part of our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, and in other subjects.
4. Our staff and students have also been engaged in the development of our RSE Policy and Curriculum, as appropriate and in line with good practice recommendations.
5. We've worked hard to make sure that our new curriculum reflects:
  1. Our values of; All different, All equal, All achieving.
  2. Our students' age and maturity levels, as well as their cultural and religious backgrounds;
  3. Every students' learning needs; and
  4. What students need to know to be healthy and safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider world
6. This consultation has been published on the Samuel Cody Website. Parents and carers have been invited to submit responses to the consultation questions to [T.GREENWOOD@samuelcody.hants.sch.uk](mailto:T.GREENWOOD@samuelcody.hants.sch.uk) or sending this paper copy to school addressed to T. Greenwood
7. The deadline for responses is **29<sup>th</sup> June 2020**.
8. We will consider responses to the consultation by **3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020** so that our RSE Policy can be published before the start of the **2020/21 Academic Year**, in **September 2020**.

## Consultation Questions

Thank you for sharing your views on our RSE Policy. They will be given weight and we may make changes to our RSE Policy in light of your views, as appropriate.

The following questions are asked to collect your views about our RSE Policy and our approach to RSE. They are not asked to collect your views about whether or not the DfE is right to require us to teach specific topics as part of RSE. Concerns about the DfE's requirements should be made to the DfE. We do not have power over those requirements and, as our RSE Policy explains, we are legally required to comply with them.

Please tick the circle next to your answer.

Q1: Is our RSE Policy clearly written and easy to understand – could any parts of it be made clearer?

- Yes, I found the RSE Policy clearly written and easy to understand.
- No. I think the following areas of the RSE Policy could be clearer. Please specify which areas lack clarity and what you think we could improve to make them clearer (e.g. more simple language).

If you answered No to question 1 please give more detail below

Q2: After reading Section VII of our RSE Policy ("The Right to Withdraw"), do you understand how to submit a request to withdraw your child from the elements of sex education that are not taught as part of the compulsory national science curriculum?

- Yes, I understand.
- No, I don't understand. Please specify which elements of the Section VII of our RSE Policy you do not understand and how you think they could be made clearer.

If you answered No to question 2 please give more detail below

Q3: After reading our RSE Policy and RSE Curriculum, how would you rate your understanding of when and how your child will be taught about the range of RSE topics required by the DfE?

- I have a strong understanding of when and how my child will be taught about the range of RSE topics required by the DfE.
- I understand when and how my child will be taught about the range of RSE topics required by the DfE
- I have a weak understanding of when and how my child will be taught about the range of RSE topics required by the DfE.

- I have no understanding of when and how my child will be taught about the range of RSE topics required by the DfE.

If you answered "I no understanding of when and how my child will be taught about the range of RSE topics required by the DfE" in response to Question 4, please explain how your understanding could be improved.

Q4: To what extent do you agree with the following statement about our RSE Policy and Curriculum: "I feel confident that my child will be taught about the range of RSE topics required by the DfE at an appropriate stage in their development, in a way that is sensitive to their cultural or religious background and in a way that respects the dignity and equality of all students".

- Strongly agree.
- Agree.
- Neither agree nor disagree.
- Disagree.
- Strongly disagree.

If you answered "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree" in response to Question 4, please explain why you do not feel confident about our approach to teaching RSE, which is underpinned by our values of all different, all equal, all achieving.

Do you have any additional information or evidence which we may have overlooked when developing our RSE Policy?