

Stepping Stones School



Relationships Education Policy 2025-27

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The Relationships Education Policy of Stepping Stones outlines our commitment to providing a comprehensive and age-appropriate relationships education curriculum that equips pupils with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for healthy and respectful relationships.

The Stepping Stones Relationships Education Policy underscores our dedication to preparing pupils with the skills they need to form and maintain healthy and respectful relationships throughout their lives. By focusing on intention, impact, and implementation, we aim to empower our pupils to navigate the complexities of human connections with empathy, respect, and confidence.

Intent

The intention of our Relationships Education program is to empower pupils to develop positive and meaningful relationships, both now and in their future lives. Through our curriculum, we aim to:

- Foster self-awareness and emotional intelligence to support healthy relationship dynamics.
- Provide age-appropriate information on the diverse forms of relationships, including friendships, family, and romantic partnerships.
- Equip pupils with effective communication and conflict-resolution skills.
- Promote respect for diversity, inclusion, and consent.
- Address online safety, digital relationships, and responsible use of technology.
- Prepare pupils for the challenges and responsibilities of forming and maintaining healthy relationships.

Implementation

Our Relationships Education program is implemented through a thoughtfully designed curriculum. We deliver our Growing & Changing (RSE) Theme as part of our PSHE Programme of Study – this is delivered in every class across the whole school in the Summer Term.

Our implementation strategies include:

Curriculum Design: Our curriculum is tailored to different age groups and stages of development, addressing age-appropriate topics and scenarios. We use recommended planning from the PSHE Association.

Lesson Delivery: Teachers utilise interactive methods, discussions, role-playing, and case studies to engage pupils and facilitate learning.

Real-life Scenarios: Real-world examples are used to help pupils apply the concepts they learn to practical situations.

Sensitive Approach: Lessons are delivered in a safe and inclusive environment, addressing cultural and individual differences with sensitivity.

Feedback and Evaluation: We gather feedback from pupils and teachers to continuously refine and adapt our curriculum to meet the evolving needs of our pupils.

Right to Withdrawal: Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from Sex Education, but not Relationships Education or Health Education. If a parent/carer wishes to withdraw their child from some or all of Sex Education, they can contact their child's class teacher who will share the lesson plans and resources and discuss these with the parent to ensure they make an informed decision before deciding to withdraw their child.

Impact

We measure the impact of our Relationships Education program through observable changes in pupils' behaviour, attitudes, and understanding of relationships. We expect to see:

- Increased empathy and respect for others' perspectives and feelings.
- Improved communication skills leading to better understanding and cooperation.
- Enhanced ability to recognise and respond to unhealthy or abusive relationship dynamics.
- Greater awareness of the importance of consent and the consequences of its absence.
- Reduced instances of cyberbullying and online harassment.
- Improved knowledge of personal boundaries and the boundaries of others.

Continuous Improvement

We are committed to the ongoing evaluation and enhancement of our Relationships Education program. We actively seek input from pupils, parents, and staff to ensure that the curriculum remains relevant, effective, and responsive to emerging challenges.

This policy should be viewed in conjunction with the PSHE Policy.