

**Pearson Primary School**

# Personal Development and Relationships Policy

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Head Teacher** | **L.Clarkson** |
| **Lead teacher for PSHE (inc. PDR)** | **C.Thackrey** |
| **Approved Date** | **2.12.21** |
| **Review Date** | **2.12.22** |

## Introduction

At Pearson Primary School, we believe that pupils must be provided with an education that prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. Effective Personal Development and Relationships (PDR), which encompasses PSHE, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education, is essential to enable children to make informed decisions about their lives. The policy is consistent with current national guidance “Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education” (DfE 2019)

Personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) is an important and necessary part of all pupils’ education and is covered within this policy. Through a planned programme of learning, we aim to provide our pupils with the knowledge, understanding and skills they require in order to manage their lives both now and in the future.

**Relationships Education**

Relationships Education focuses on the lifelong learning about emotional, social and cultural development, which are aspects also covered within this policy. It is a lifelong process of acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about relationships, healthy lifestyles, diversity, personal identity and sexuality. At Pearson, we recognise the importance of other strong and mutually supportive relationships. We do not promote any one form of relationship, but ensures that there is no stigmatism of children based on their home circumstances.

**Health Education**

Health Education focuses on teaching the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing. It should enable pupils to articulate how they are feeling, develop the language to talk about their bodies, health and emotions and judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate for the situations that they experience. Pupils will be taught how to maintain a positive two-way relationship between good physical health and good mental wellbeing.

Health Education focusses on equipping pupils with the knowledge that they need to make positive decisions about their own health and well-being.

**Sex Education**

The government recommends that all primary schools develop a sex education programme that is tailored to the needs of the pupils. Therefore we will provide some non-statutory content covering human reproduction within the 'Changing Me' topic of work. Parents do have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from lessons that specifically refer to human reproduction. We hold annual RSE consultation sessions in Years 4,5 and 6 so that families can review our resources and talk to teachers so that they can make informed decisions.

**Living in the Wider World**

Pupils learn about the importance of money, personal attitudes towards spending and basic money management. Within the curriculum, pupils will be taught about different jobs and careers, encouraging them to think about what they would like to do as adults and the skills required. Lessons will enable pupils to develop an understanding of the importance of community and their own rights and responsibilities. We hold a Quality Mark for careers education which recognises the strength of our curriculum and our commitment to careers education.

Aims

Within the context of the above we aim to develop Personal Development and Relationships Education in the context of a broad and balanced curriculum. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education will be fully integrated into the curriculum and not isolated, taken out of context, or overemphasised in any way.

We aim to work in partnership with parents, consulting with them regularly on the content and delivery of our PDR curriculum. We also recognise that a range of people from the wider community, such as health professionals, can help to enhance and enrich the delivery of our programme. However, we will ensure that anyone coming into school to help deliver the programme is aware of the school's policy and abides by it.

In a world where children receive information about PDR from a variety of sources, many of which are inaccurate or ‘unhealthy’, our school aims to counterbalance these messages by providing accurate information as part of a supportive curriculum.

We aim to promote PDR through:

* Working restoratively;
* consulting with parents on all matters;
* training all our teachers to deliver content;
* listening to the views of the children in our school;
* looking positively at any local initiatives that support us in providing the best teaching programme that we can devise;
* developing our children's confidence in talking, listening, and thinking about feelings, relationships and emotional development;
* supporting our children through their physical, social and moral development by providing them with clear information and opportunities to relate to wider considerations

We will work towards achieving the following aims for PDR to enable our children to:

* develop interpersonal and communication skills, to enable them to discuss their mental wellbeing
* develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions and behaviour
* respect themselves and others, their views, backgrounds, cultures and experiences
* develop loving, caring relationships based on mutual respect
* develop understanding of the nature and value stable relationships for family life and bringing up children as positive influences in community and society
* recognise and avoid exploitative relationships or those that make them feel unhappy or unsafe
* value, care for and respect their bodies
* be able to name the parts of the body and understand the process of human reproduction
* be prepared for puberty and the emotional and physical effects of body changes
* understand how to behave online and stay safe
* protect themselves and access additional advice and support
* understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and what determines their physical health

See [Department for Education - Relationships and Health Education](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education) for all of the statutory end of primary school expectations.

## Curriculum Implementation

At Pearson Primary School Personal Development and Relationships (which includes PSHE, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education) is taught weekly through a planned programme of work that follows the Jigsaw PSHE programme. Jigsaw brings together PSHE Education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development in a comprehensive scheme of learning. Teaching strategies are varied and are mindful of preferred learning styles and the need for differentiation. Jigsaw is designed as a whole school approach, with all year groups working on the same theme (Puzzle) at the same time. This enables each Puzzle to start with an introductory assembly, generating a whole school focus for adults and children alike.

There are six Puzzles in Jigsaw that are designed to progress in sequence from September to July. Each

Puzzle has six Pieces (lessons) which work towards an ‘end product’, for example, The School Learning

Charter or The Garden of Dreams and Goals. Each Piece has two Learning Intentions: one is based on specific PSHE learning (covering the non-statutory national framework for PSHE Education but enhanced to address children’s needs today); and one is based on emotional literacy and social skills (covering the SEAL learning intentions but also enhanced).

The enhancements mean that Jigsaw is relevant to children living in today’s world as it helps them understand and be equipped to cope with issues like body image, cyber and homophobic bullying, and internet safety.

Every Piece (lesson) contributes to at least one of these aspects of children’s development. This is mapped on each Piece and balanced across each year group.

For children in Reception, the lesson plans clearly identify the Early Learning Goal (ELG) and the Development Matters levels (D4 - D6) that will be that session’s focus. Every plan has child initiated and Adult-led activity ideas for both the indoor and outdoor learning environment.

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase including statutory Relationships and Health Education. The table below gives the learning theme of each of the six Puzzles (units) and these are taught across the school; the learning deepens and broadens every year.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Puzzle (Unit)** | **Content** |
| **Autumn 1:** | Being Me in My  World | Includes understanding my own identity and how I fit well in the class, school and global community. Jigsaw Charter established. |
| **Autumn 2:** | Celebrating  Difference | Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and understanding |
| **Spring 1:** | Dreams and Goals | Includes goal-setting, aspirations, who do I want to become and what would I like to do for work and to contribute to society |
| **Spring 2:** | Healthy Me | Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices, sleep, nutrition, rest and exercise |
| **Summer 1:** | Relationships | Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills, bereavement and loss |
| **Summer 2:** | Changing Me | Includes Relationships and Sex Education in the context of coping positively with change |

Our PDR curriculum is an integral part of our whole school PSHE provision and enrichment curriculum. It is also supported by statutory requirements as set out in the National Curriculum for Science. We teach discreet RSE lessons to pupils in Years 1 to 6 through PSHE lessons and some lessons through other subject areas such as Science and PE, where we feel that they contribute significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body, and how it is changing and developing.

Our PDR curriculum is an integral part of our whole school PSHE provision and extended curriculum.

* Relationships Education is taught through PSHE lessons, however positive relationships are fostered throughout every aspect of the school curriculum.
* Health and Sex Education lessons are taught to pupils in Years 1 to 6 through PSHE/Science lessons.
* Weekly assemblies focus upon relationships, as well as social and emotional development.
* The extended learning curriculum, which includes clubs, residentials, visits and visitors, enhances learning in all areas encompassed in PDR.
* The hidden curriculum is driven by our core values of being ‘restorative,’ ‘inclusive,’ and ‘hard working’ and develops pupils’ respect and tolerance of others.

The following objectives from the National Curriculum for Science that relate to aspects of Health education are also taught:

Year 1:

* I can identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense

Year 2:

* I know that animals including humans have offspring which grow into adults.
* I can find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival.
* I can describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

Year 5:

* I can describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird I can describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
* I can describe the changes as humans develop to old age.

Year 6:

* I can recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
* I can recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function

## Teaching Strategies and Resources

We will ensure a safe learning environment by following our school policies. A range of teaching and learning methods which involve children's full participation are used and PDR takes place within normal classroom provision of mixed-sex classes.

We will help children to develop the confidence to talk, listen and think about PDR through the use of the following strategies:

* 'ground rules' and ‘class norms’ through our charters.
* role play and drama;
* class discussion;
* group discussion;
* circle time;
* reflection time;
* small group work;
* case studies/scenarios.

For a fuller list of our pedagogy, see the Teaching for Learning Policy.

All teachers are committed to delivering the PDR curriculum. Well trained and competent teachers can adapt the curriculum, select and adapt teaching materials that can be used to enhance learning and design their own activities and resources. Staff should consider:

* Is the resource consistent with the values set out in the school’s PDR policy?
* Does the resource portray positive images of a range of children and young people?
* Does the resource show positive role models for girls and boys/women and men – and avoid stereotypes relating to gender and sexual orientation?
* Is the resource inclusive based on home and family circumstance, gender, sexuality, race, faith, culture and disability?
* Is it appropriate for the age, ability and maturity of the children and young people?
* Does use of the resource fit into a planned and developmental curriculum?
* Have resources been evaluated by children and young people and feedback acted upon?
* Have parents and carers been consulted about resources?
* Is it factually correct and up-to-date?
* Is the resource contemporary in terms of the realities of children and young people’s lives?
* Does it encourage active and participatory learning?
* Is there a range of types of resource being used across the curriculum including a variety of formats such as video, audio, visual, games, and models?
* Are teachers confident about using the resource?
* Will the resource be used in its entirety, or will it be more appropriate to adapt it and select from it?

## Delivery of Personal Development and Relationships

Staff are careful to ensure that their personal beliefs and attitudes do not influence the teaching of PDR. Staff are trained using DfE produced support and training materials on teaching relationships, sex and health education so we have a common framework within which to teach and to discuss arising issues.

* Pupils will be given preparation so that they will know how to minimise any embarrassment they feel.
* No one (staff or pupil) should be expected to ask or answer a personal question.
* No one will be forced to take part in a discussion.
* From Nursery onwards only the correct names for body parts will be used -breast, penis, vagina, bottom
* Meanings of age-appropriate words will be explained in a sensible and factual way.
* Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit or difficult question in the school setting. Questions do not have to be answered directly and can be addressed later. Staff must use their skill and discretion in these situations and refer to the PSHE Lead Teacher, Family Links Officer or Head teacher.
* If a question or comment raises a Child Protection concern the DSL or Head teacher should be informed so that child Protection procedures can be followed in line with safeguarding policy.

## Teaching Sensitive and Controversial Issues

We acknowledge that sensitive and controversial issues will arise as children will naturally share information, ask questions and learn from real-life experience. Teachers will be prepared to handle personal issues arising from the work, to deal sensitively with, and to follow up appropriately, disclosures made in a group or individual setting. Issues that we address that are likely to be sensitive and controversial because they have a political, social or personal impact or deal with values and beliefs include: family lifestyles and values, physical and medical issues, financial issues, bullying and bereavement. Teachers will take all reasonable, practical steps to ensure that, where political or controversial issues are brought to pupils’ attention, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Teachers will adopt strategies that seek to avoid bias on their part and will teach pupils how to recognise bias and evaluate evidence. Teachers will seek to establish a classroom climate in which all pupils are free from any fear of expressing reasonable points of view that contradict those held either by their class teachers or their peers.

When spontaneous discussion arises, it will be guided in a way which reflects the stated school aims and curriculum content for PDR. As a first principle we will answer questions relating to the taught planned curriculum for that age group to the whole class. We will answer questions relating to areas beyond the taught planned curriculum for that age group, in a sensitive and age appropriate way only to the child or children who have asked the question. If a member of staff is uncertain about the answer to a question, or indeed whether they wish to answer it they will seek guidance from the PSHE Lead.

When answering questions, we shall ensure that sharing personal information by adults, pupils or their families is discouraged. Where a question or comment from a pupil in the classroom indicates the possibility of abuse, teachers will pass this information to the designated safeguarding lead for child protection or the Headteacher, in line with school policy.

We will address gender issues to reduce gender stereotyping and broaden views of gender roles and expectations, e.g. it is acceptable for boys to show emotion and cry, and girls to have high job aspirations. We will encourage and support communication between genders and improve understanding by girls and boys playing and working together.

## Answering Difficult Questions and Sensitive Issues

We are aware that views around PSHE and RSE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all PSHE and RSE issues are taught without bias using Jigsaw. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect that others have the right to a different opinion. Both formal and informal PSHE and RSE arising from pupils’ questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil(s) concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the designated safeguarding lead. Our school believes that PSHE and RSE should meet the needs of all pupils, answer appropriate questions and offer support. In Jigsaw Pieces that cover RSE provision, this should be regardless of their developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. Homophobic bullying is dealt with strongly yet sensitively. The school will liaise with parents/carers on this issue to reassure them of the content and context.

## Evaluation and Monitoring

This will in the first instance be undertaken by the PSHE lead teacher with responsibility for coordinating PDR, (part of the PSHE Lead role), who will monitor the impact of the policy on children’s learning, and report to SLT. All monitoring will follow school policy. The delivery of PDR is monitored by the PSHE lead through: planning scrutinies, learning walks, lesson observations and monitoring of work. Pupils’ development in PDR is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems. Elements of Health and Sex education in the Science curriculum will be evaluated and monitored as part of the Science leads rolling programme.

## Roles and Responsibilities

Those involved with the development of this policy include the PSHE lead teacher, the family links officer, the DSL/DDSL, and the Head teacher.

## Personal Development and Relationships Lead

The PDR lead is responsible for the following:

1. In the light of statutory curriculum changes and nationally determined priorities, to monitor school practice that will lead to the writing of a policy and scheme of work.
2. To ensure the school meets its statutory requirements in relations to the relationships, sex and health curriculum.
3. To keep up to date with developments in the subject by attending INSET, Workshops,

Support Groups, accessing books and other literature, and sharing this information with the Head Teacher and colleagues.

1. To ensure the relationships, sex and health curriculum is inclusive and accessible for all pupils.
2. To share expertise and subject knowledge by leading INSET, Workshops, and Staff Meetings.
3. To order, monitor and develop resources, keeping them well organised, labelled and accessible.
4. To advise colleagues on appropriate planning, teaching methods, activities and resources.
5. To lead by example by showing good practice through joint planning, team teaching, working alongside colleagues, and modelling good practice.
6. To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of subjects and inform the Headteacher.

## The Headteacher

It is the responsibility of the Head teacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our PDR policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Head teacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

The Head teacher liaises with external agencies and parents regarding the school PDR curriculum, and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework.

When parents wish to withdraw their children from Sex Education lessons, it is the responsibility of the Headteacher to review and discuss requests, and organise alternative education for pupils, where necessary, that is appropriate and purposeful.

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

* Delivering PDR in a sensitive way
* Modelling positive attitudes
* Monitoring progress
* Responding to the needs of individual pupils
* Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory/non-science components of Sex Education

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching PDR. Staff who have concerns about teaching PDR are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher.

## Parents

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's Personal Development and Relationships education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective we:

* Converse with parents about the school's PDR policy and practice through, for example, meetings, newsletters, curriculum welcome packs, etc;
* Answer any questions that parents may have about PSHE, the health, relationships, and sex education of their child;
* Take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers about this policy or the arrangements for PDR curriculum in the school;
* Inform parents about the best practice known with regard to PSHE, health, relationships and sex education, so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home. We believe that, through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information, children will benefit from being given consistent messages.

Parents are key partners in supporting the school to:

* Maintaining the culture and ethos of the family
* Teaching their children about Personal Development and Relationships
* Helping their children cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up  Preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities that sexual maturity brings
* Identify issues

From 1st September 2020 parents no longer have the right to withdraw their children from

Relationships & Health Education in primary schools. This includes topics that cover same sex marriage, puberty and LGBT for example. These topics are covered under the Equalities Act 2010. All topics will be covered sensitively with an awareness of the age and developmental maturity of the pupils and the faith, ethnicity and culture of our community.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory/non-science components of sex education within PDR. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education lessons, they should discuss this with the Headteacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. The school always complies with the wishes of parents in this regard.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from Sex Education.

The DfE concludes that Sex Education refers to Human Reproduction, and therefore parents have the right to request their child be withdrawn from the lesson, or parts of lessons, that explicitly teach this:

* Year 5, Piece 2 – Having a baby
* Year 5, Piece 4 – Conception
* Year 6, Piece 4 – Conception to birth

Children are NOT taught how to have sexual intercourse within these lessons, but are taught that this will lead to having a baby. The content (lesson plan) for all of the above lessons is available to view upon request from the PSHE Lead.

The school will inform parents of this right by letter before the ‘Changing Me’ puzzle is taught.

## Working with outside agencies

We encourage other valued members of the community to work alongside and with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to PDR. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority, such as the school nurse and other health professionals, give us valuable support with our PDR curriculum. All contributors to the PDR curriculum are made aware of this Policy.

Professionals, such as school nurses and youth workers, are bound by their professional codes of conduct when offering advice and guidance to individual pupils. This often involves offering a greater level of confidentiality to children than school staff are able to give. However, in a classroom and other teaching situations when they are contributing to our planned PDR curriculum, they will follow the school’s safeguarding policy. Health professionals will ensure that children are aware of the boundaries of confidentiality when beginning to work with them.

## Safeguarding

All staff will be trained in safeguarding. Teachers are aware that effective PDR which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. In this situation staff should follow internal safeguarding policies including informing the safeguarding lead. Prior to teaching, teachers will consult with the designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure that issues can be addressed prior to the teaching of the subject and appropriate differentiation can be made.

Occasionally, appropriate and suitably experienced and/or knowledgeable visitors (such as school nursing team) from outside school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of RSE in school.

All visitors will be familiar with and understand the school’s PDR policy and work within it as they will be sent a copy as part of the teaching agreement.

As per Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, visitors are supervised/supported by a member of staff. The input of visitors is monitored and evaluated by staff and pupils. This evaluation informs future planning.

## Equal Opportunities

All teaching and non-teaching staff at our school are responsible for ensuring that all pupils irrespective of gender, ability, ethnicity and social circumstances, have access to the whole curriculum and opportunities to make the greatest progress possible in all areas of the curriculum whilst in our school.

We also recognise the importance of respecting the diverse family circumstances that exist within our school community and seek out resources to reflect these, for example, single parent families, same sex parents/carers, etc.

## Pastoral support for pupils

All members of staff are approachable to discuss relationships, health and sex issues with the children. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved or likely to be involved in sexual activity or indicates they may have been the victim of abuse then the member of staff will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection by following the school’s safeguarding procedures.

**Policy Dissemination**

This policy document, having been presented to and agreed by the whole staff and the trustees, is distributed to all individual members of the teaching staff and the trustees.

Further copies of the policy are available on our website and in our Policy folders in school. Electronic copies are available on the Learning Platform. Such distribution ensures the accessibility of the document to visitors, for example supply teachers, support staff and parents.

## Review

This policy has been agreed by Staff and the trustees of Pearson Primary School and will be reviewed in the academic year 2022/23 to ensure compliance with any new statutory guidance. Following this review, it will be reviewed biannually to ensure it continues to meet the needs of pupils, staff, parents and the wider community and that it is in line with current DFE advice and guidance.