



Relationships Education and Growing up (REGU) Policy

As a Rights Respecting School we uphold the articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The following underpin this policy:

Article 2: Every child has the right to be treated equally and with respect

Article 19: Every child has the right to be protected from harm

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1. Aims

The aims of Relationships Education and Growing Up (REGU) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships

Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

At Havelock, we value an open, honest and welcoming approach, where pupils speak and act respectfully to each other. We also want to develop pupils who know their rights and are empowered to speak up about concerns. Our REGU lessons help us to achieve this across the school.

2. Statutory requirements

As a maintained primary school, we must provide relationships education to all pupils under section 34 of the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#).

We are not required to provide sex education, but we do need to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

In teaching RSE, we must have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state, as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

We must also have regard to our legal duties set out in:

- Sections 406 and 407 of the Education Act 1996
- Part 6, chapter 1 of the [Equality Act 2010](#)
- The Public Sector Equality Duty (as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). This duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

At Havelock, we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review - a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Staff consultation - all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation - parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy
4. Pupil consultation - we investigated what exactly pupils want from their REGU
5. Ratification - once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

4. Definition

REGU is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, body development, sexual health, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

REGU involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

REGU is not about the promotion of sexual activity or sexual relationships.

5. Curriculum

Our REGU curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1, but we may need to adapt it as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff, and taking into account the age, developmental stage, needs and feelings of our pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of this policy, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so that pupils are fully informed and don't seek answers online.

Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe
- My body, my rules

Primary sex education will focus on:

- Preparing boys and girls for the changes that adolescence brings
- How a baby is conceived and born

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1.

These areas of learning are taught within the context of family life, taking care to make sure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances (families can include single parent families, LGBT parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents and foster parents/carers, amongst other structures), along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a different structure of support around them (for example, looked-after children or young carers).

We will also be mindful of the law and legal requirements, taking care not to condone or encourage illegal political activity, such as violent action against people, criminal damage to property, hate crime, terrorism or the illegal use of drugs.

6. Delivery of REGU

REGU is taught in spring term within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of REGU are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

REGU is taught at the same time across the school and only after parent information sessions are delivered and parent views have been collected.

Lessons are taught predominantly through discussion and any visuals used are drawings. An overview of the resources including visuals used for lessons are available on the school website.

In years 3 - 6, boys and girls are taught separately to allow for open discussion. The content covered is the same for both groups.

6.1 Inclusivity

We will teach about these topics in a manner that:

- Considers how a diverse range of pupils will relate to them
- Is sensitive to all pupils' experiences
- During lessons, makes pupils feel:

- Safe and supported
- Able to engage with the key messages

We will also:

Make sure that pupils learn about these topics in an environment that's appropriate for them, for example in:

- A whole-class setting
- Small groups or targeted sessions
- 1-to-1 discussions
- Digital formats

Give careful consideration to the level of differentiation needed

6.2 Use of resources

We will consider whether any resources we plan to use:

- Are aligned with the teaching requirements set out in the statutory RSE (REGU) guidance
- Would support pupils in applying their knowledge in different contexts and settings
- Are age-appropriate, given the age, developmental stage and background of our pupils
- Are evidence-based and contain robust facts and statistics
- Fit into our curriculum plan
- Are from credible sources
- Are compatible with effective teaching approaches
- Are sensitive to pupils' experiences and won't provoke distress

7. Use of external organisations and materials

We will make sure that an agency and any materials used are appropriate and in line with our legal duties around political impartiality.

The school remains responsible for what is said to pupils. This includes making sure that any speakers, tools and resources used don't undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

We will:

Make appropriate checks and engage with external agencies to make sure that their approach to teaching about REGU is balanced, and it and the resources they intend to use:

- Are age-appropriate
- Are in line with pupils' developmental stage
- Comply with:
 - This policy
 - The [Teachers' Standards](#)
 - The [Equality Act 2010](#)
 - The [Human Rights Act 1998](#)
 - The [Education Act 1996](#)

Only work with external agencies where we have full confidence in the agency, its approach and the resources it uses

Make sure that any speakers and resources meet the intended outcome of the relevant part of the curriculum

Review any case study materials and look for feedback from other people the agency has worked with

Be clear on:

- What they're going to say
- Their position on the issues to be discussed

Ask to see in advance any materials that the agency may use

Know the named individuals who will be there, and follow our usual safeguarding procedures for these people

Conduct a basic online search and address anything that may be of concern to us, or to parents and carers

Check the agency's protocol for taking pictures or using any personal data they might get from a session

Remind teachers that they can say "no" or, in extreme cases, stop a session

Make sure that the teacher is in the room during any sessions with external speakers

We **won't**, under any circumstances:

Work with external agencies that take or promote extreme political positions

Use materials produced by such agencies, even if the material itself is not extreme

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the REGU policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

8.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that REGU is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of REGU (see section 9).

8.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

Delivering REGU in a sensitive way

Modelling positive attitudes to REGU

Monitoring progress

Responding to the needs of individual pupils

Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory components of REGU

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

REGU lessons will be taught by class teachers and their delivery will be overseen by our REGU Lead and the headteacher.

8.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in REGU and, when discussing issues related to REGU, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

9. Parents’ right to withdraw

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from relationships education.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of sex education within REGU (one lesson in year 6 only).

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing using the form found in Appendix 3 of this policy and addressed to the headteacher.

Alternative school work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

10. Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of REGU as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The headteacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching REGU.

11. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of REGU is monitored by Amy Braid through:

- Staff training sessions
- Formal and informal check-ins
- Learning walks
- Pupil voice and book looks

Pupils’ development in REGU is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

This policy will be reviewed by Amy Braid annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.

Drafted	September 2023
Adopted	October 2024
To be reviewed	October 2024

Appendix 1: Curriculum map

Relationships and sex education curriculum map

Year group	Learning objectives for Relationships Education lessons
Nursery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To consider the routines and patterns of a typical day ○ To explain how to keep myself clean and healthy and explain why it is important ○ To identify the people in my family and explain where I can get help
Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To consider the routines and patterns of a typical day ○ To explain how to keep myself clean and healthy and explain why it is important ○ To identify the people in my family and explain where I can get help
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To understand how to keep myself clean and healthy and explain why it is important ○ To understand how I have grown and changed since birth ○ To identify the people in my family, while recognising that not all families look like mine ○ To explain where I can get help and support.
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To explore stereotypes ○ To explain personal boundaries ○ To understand how boys and girls are different and to name boy and girl body parts ○ To understand the stages in the human lifecycle ○ To identify the people in my family, while recognizing that not all families look like mine ○ To explain where I can get help and support.
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To understand how boys and girls are different and to name boy and girl body parts ○ To explain personal boundaries ○ To identify the people in my family, while recognizing that not all families look like mine ○ To explain where I can get help and support ○ To understand good friendships
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To identify the people in my family, while recognizing that not all families look like mine ○ To explain where I can get help and support ○ To understand basic facts about puberty ○ To begin to understand menstruation ○ To understand good friendships
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To explore the emotional and physical changes that occur during puberty ○ To understand male and female puberty changes ○ To explore the impact of puberty on the body and the importance of physical hygiene ○ To explore ways to get support during puberty ○ To understand what makes a family and who to turn to for help and support
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To recap the male and female changes that happen during puberty ○ To understand what makes a family and who to turn to for help and support ○ To explore positive and negative ways of communicating in relationships ○ To understand healthy relationships

- To understand the human reproductive system (*parents can withdraw children from this lesson. See section 9*)

Appendix 2: By the end of primary school pupils should know

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Families and people who care about me	<p>That families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability</p> <p>The characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives</p> <p>That others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care</p> <p>That stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up</p> <p>That marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong</p> <p>How to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed</p>
Caring friendships	<p>How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends</p> <p>The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties</p> <p>That healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded</p> <p>That most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right</p> <p>How to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed</p>
Respectful relationships	<p>The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs</p> <p>Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships</p> <p>The conventions of courtesy and manners</p> <p>The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness</p> <p>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 those in positions of authority</p> <p>About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help</p> <p>What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive</p> <p>The importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults</p>

TOPIC	PUPILS SHOULD KNOW
Online relationships	<p>That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not</p> <p>That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous</p> <p>The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them</p> <p>How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met</p> <p>How information and data is shared and used online</p>
Being safe	<p>What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)</p> <p>About the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe</p> <p>That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact</p> <p>How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know</p> <p>How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult</p> <p>How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard</p> <p>How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so</p> <p>Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources</p>

Appendix 3: Parent form: withdrawal from sex education within RSE

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS			
Name of child		Class	
Name of parent		Date	
Reason for withdrawing from sex education within relationships and sex education			
Any other information you would like the school to consider			
Parent signature			