**Ysgol Meifod**

**POLICY**

**FOR**

**RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION**

This Policy for Relationships and Sexuality Education was reviewed with and adopted by the Governing Body on November 2022

Signed:…………………………………………………………Chair of Governors

Signed:…………………………………………………………. Headteacher

The policy will next be reviewed in November 2024

INTRODUCTION

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a positive and protective part of the Curriculum for Wales. It plays a central role in supporting learners’ rights to enjoy fulfilling, healthy and safe relationships throughout their lives. Central to the Curriculum for Wales is an aspiration for every child and young person to achieve the four purposes of the curriculum. A rights and equity based RSE curriculum helps ensure that all learners can develop an understanding of how people’s faith, beliefs, human rights and cultures are related to all aspects of RSE and how these rights can contribute to the freedom, dignity, well-being and safety of all people. Therefore, schools and settings should discuss RSE in the context of the Rights protected by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. RSE should support learners to develop the knowledge, skills and values to understand how relationships and sexuality shape their own lives and the lives of others. Learners should be equipped and empowered to seek support on issues relating to RSE and to advocate for self and others. RSE will be a mandatory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales for all learners. This means that all learners must receive this education. There is no right to withdraw from RSE in the new curriculum. However, the new curriculum is being phased in, therefore, some pupils may still be withdrawn from RSE pending the new curriculum arrangements being rolled out to their school year.

APPENDIX 1 - Welsh Government Video “What will Primary Pupils be taught?”

AIMS

Relationships and Sexuality Education at Ysgol Meifod aims to equip children with the information, skills and values they need to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships.

ORGANISATION OF TEACHING RSE

At Ysgol Meifod, RSE is taught through a range of lessons and activities. External visitors such as the school nurse and community police officer deliver lessons as appropriate.

At Ysgol Meifod, RSE will be taught as part of the Health and Wellbeing Area of Learning and Experience through the Jigsaw PSHE programme. The Health and Well-being Area statements of What Matters provide detail on knowledge, skills and understanding related to RSE and the descriptions of learning set out the progression within each statement. Statements of What Matters in the Health and Well-being area are as follows:

-Developing physical health and well-being has lifelong benefits

-How we process and respond to our experiences affects our mental health and emotional well-being

-Our decision-making impacts on the quality of our lives and the lives of others

-How we engage with social influences shapes who we are and affects our health and well-being

-Healthy relationships are fundamental to our well-being.

Teachers should also look for opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and understanding in all the other Areas. For example, there is a clear inter-dependency with the biological and technological aspects of the Science and Technology Area and the complex nature of human societies within the Humanities Area. RSE at Ysgol Meifod will be taught and discussed in context of children’s rights as protected by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

COVERAGE

RSE will be taught by class teachers in mixed gender groups where possible.

At the end of the Foundation Phase pupils should be able to:

● value themselves

● recognise and communicate their feelings

● form friendships and relationships

● name the parts of the body in order to distinguish between male and female

● understand the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch.

At the end of Key Stage 2 pupils should understand:

● the reasons for the physical and emotional changes that take place at puberty, including conception, pregnancy and birth

● the range of their own and others’ feelings and emotions

● the importance of personal safety and what to do or to whom to go when feeling unsafe

● name the parts of the body in order to distinguish between male and female

● understand the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS/CARERS

We recognise that parents/carers play a large role in teaching their children about RSE and we aim to work in partnership and communicate openly with parents/carers.

Until September 2022 parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from the teaching of ‘sex education’ lessons. However, parents do not have the right to withdraw them from teaching of matters set out in the statutory Framework. If parents/carers have concerns about this situation, they are invited to discuss the matter with the Headteacher.

Parents may have access to the RSE policy at school. Parents will no longer have the right to withdraw children from RSE when the new curriculum is implemented (2022).

SAFEGUARDING AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Teachers cannot offer pupils unconditional confidentiality. On the rare occasion when a pupil discloses information to a teacher / member of school staff directly, the following confidentiality policy will be followed:

· Remind pupils that they cannot offer unconditional confidentiality;

· Inform pupils first if staff are going to break confidentiality;

· Encourage pupils to talk about any worries and concerns they have with parents/carers;

· Always follow the school’s Safeguarding Policy if there are child protection concerns.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Pupils with Special Educational Needs are taught about RSE alongside their peers and in a way which is appropriate for their needs.

In teaching this subject, respect is shown, by staff and pupils, for children of different cultural and religious backgrounds. No child is discriminated against on the grounds of disability, age, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

GOVERNORS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governing Body is responsible for producing a policy for Relationships and Sexuality Education which caters for the needs of all pupils. The policy is revised, and its impact monitored, on an annual basis.

In conclusion, by following this policy, we aim to assist our pupils to cope with the physical and emotional changes which occur as they grow older. We emphasise the importance of developing good, caring relationships with others based on mutual trust and respect. Above all we do our best to give our children the self-esteem, confidence, knowledge and skills they will need as they become young adults.

APPENDIX:

1. Welsh Government RSE Video - [What will primary children be taught? - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RG0XN4ccvWQ)