BRYN CELYNNOG
Comprehensive School
Nurturing Success

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION POLICY

LAST APPROVED BY GOVERNORS: 1st JULY 2025

DATE FOR REVIEW: JULY 2026

BRYN CELYNNOG COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION POLICY

LEGISLATION

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the new Curriculum for Wales framework and is mandatory for all learners. The *Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE): statutory guidance (2022)* is published under *section 71* of the *Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021* and sets out the themes and matters that must be encompassed for learners from 3 to 16 years old. Our school policy and curriculum has been developed in line with statutory guidance and also align with the *Equality Act 2010*.

PHILOSOPHY

Relationships and Sexuality Education is a statutory requirement for all children and young people in school. This policy will define Sex and Relationships Education and how it is delivered, monitored and evaluated at Bryn Celynnog Comprehensive School.

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.

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.

RSE supports learners to develop the knowledge, skills and values to understand how relationships and sexuality shape their own lives and the lives of others. Learners will be equipped and empowered to seek support on issues relating to RSE and to advocate for self and others.

RSE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity.

PRINCIPLES

Bryn Celynnog's Relationships and Sexuality Education provision aims to gradually empower learners to build the knowledge, skills and ethical values for understanding how relationships, sex, gender and sexuality shape their own and other people's lives. It seeks to support learners' rights to enjoy equitable, safe, healthy and fulfilling relationships throughout their lives. This includes the ability to recognise, understand and speak out about discrimination and violence and know how and where to seek support, advice and factual information on a range of RSE issues.

The schools' Relationships and Sexuality Education will include developmentally appropriate learning around the following thematic areas:

1) **Relationships and identity**

- the range of relationships that human beings have throughout their lives
- how identity can be shaped by our relationships and sexuality
- the importance of human rights in securing healthy, safe and fulfilling relationships in an inclusive society.

2) **Sexual health and well-being**

- learning about how living things grow, reproduce and have a life cycle
- developing an understanding of the human body, including people's feelings about their bodies and how these can be represented
- the health issues related to relationships and sexuality
- an understanding of how sexuality and sexual health affects our well-being.

3) **Empowerment, safety and respect**

- learners' rights to safety and protection and freedom from harm and discrimination
- how and where to seek information, help and support
- how to support and advocate for the rights, fair treatment and respect of all.

PROCEDURES

RSE provides knowledge and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes which will enable students to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way. It is delivered through the Science National Curriculum, RVE and through PSE lessons.

A variety of methods are used to deliver RSE. These include information sessions, attitude awareness exercises, professionally developed videos, outside speakers. In general, classes are taught in mixed ability, mixed sex groups.

Implications for students

- Students are encouraged to accept themselves and others and are re-assured that whatever stage of puberty they have reached is normal for them.

- Students will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential and made to understand that if certain disclosures are made then certain actions will ensue. At the same time, students will be offered sensitive and appropriate support. In the event of disclosures of sexual abuse the school follows the guidelines set down in The All Wales Child Protection Procedures (2008.)

Implications for staff

- Teachers must be able to teach these sensitive issues in an appropriate manner.

- Teachers must be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. There should be no direct promotion of any sexual orientation.

- Teachers and all those contributing to sex and relationship education are expected to work within an agreed values framework.

Implications for Parents/Carers

- RSE is a mandatory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales for all learners from age 3 to 16. This means that all learners must receive this education. There is no right to withdraw from RSE

- We support parents and carers in understanding why high quality, inclusive RSE at Bryn Celynnog is important to the development and learning of every young person. Parents and carers are encouraged to discuss concerns they may have with their class or form teacher in the first instance or the RSE Lead Mr M Maidment.

PERFORMANCE

RSE delivered as part of the curriculum is reviewed annually by the RSE Lead, and the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Well-being.

The RSE Lead will:

- Maintain up to date knowledge on statutory guidelines for RSE provision
- Undertake regular professional learning in RSE
- Help to develop aspects of RSE in programmes of study across the school
- Provide professional support to teachers of RSE
- Use pupil voice exercises to inform planning
- Liaise with the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Wellbeing, in order to determine any RSE issues that need to be addressed in the curriculum.