



Bury Church of England High School

## **Relationships and sex education written statement**

September 2022

Statement to accompany the RSHE policy September 2022

### **RATIONALE AND ETHOS**

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is an essential part of the curriculum at Bury CE High School. Pupils are entitled to receive responsible, evidenced-based and relevant RSHE which allows them to explore issues and values that affect their lives.

The school provides an education programme intended to promote an understanding of personal relationships, sexual development and the maintenance of healthy lifestyles as an integral part of our pupils' spiritual, moral, social, emotional and physical development.

Effective RSHE supports pupils, throughout life, to develop safe, fulfilling and healthy sexual relationships, at the appropriate time. The programme of RSHE at Bury CE High School is planned to fully consider the pupil's age, level of maturity and SEND needs, ensuring an inclusive curriculum.

Teaching about relationships and the physical aspect of sexual behaviour is set within a Christian perspective and gives due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life and marriage. It is presented in accordance with the school's ethos and mission statement and the teachings of the Church of England.

RSHE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

### **AIMS**

The aims of Relationships, Sex and Health education (RSHE) at Bury CE High School are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place in a safe environment.
- Assist the development of informed, reasoned and morally responsible decisions.
- 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, resilience and empathy.
- Promote a critical awareness of the pressures on young people to behave in certain ways and to help improve assertiveness and the confidence to cope with such pressures.
- Help pupils to understand their own mental well-being and where and when to seek help.
- Provide pupils with the tools to be safe online and recognise when they are being exploited or misled.
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and gender identity.

- Create a positive culture around issues of equality and diversity, to include an understanding of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010.
- promote an understanding of the commitments and responsibilities required in different relationships (intimate and non-intimate), providing information about what healthy relationships look like.
- recognise grooming, sexual exploitation and domestic abuse, including coercive and controlling behaviour and provide information on how to seek help.
- promote an awareness and understanding of sexual health to help pupils make well-informed decisions.
- promote an awareness and understanding of the use of drugs and alcohol on health and help guide pupils to make well-informed decisions.
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.
- Encourage pupils to discuss RSHE issues with their parents/guardians so that the value and importance of the home/school partnership is enhanced.
- Promote awareness of the appropriate supportive agencies and services available within the community.

### **STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

As a secondary academy school we must provide RSHE to all pupils as per section 34 of the [Children and Social work act 2017](#).

In teaching RSHE, we are required by our funding agreements to have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#). and the RSHE guidance 2019.

The accompanying RSHE policy considers the guidance set out in the following documents:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (statutory guidance)
- Respectful School Communities: Self Review and Signposting Tool (a tool to support a whole school approach that promotes respect and discipline)
- Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (advice for schools, including advice for appropriate behaviour between pupils)
- Equality Act 2010 and schools
- SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years (statutory guidance)
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools (advice for schools)
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying (advice for schools, including advice on cyberbullying)
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools (advice for schools)
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance (provides advice on avoiding discrimination in a variety of educational contexts)
- Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (guidance for maintained schools on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC))
- National Citizen Service guidance for schools