

Secure.Tolerant.Ambitious.Resilient

BARTON MOSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS, SEX AND HEALTH EDUCATION (RSHE) POLICY

Secure. Tolerant. Ambitious. Resilient.

Policy Co-ordinator: Claire Woolley

Date of Issue: September 2026

Review Date: September 2028

Approved by Governing Body: _____

1. Rationale and Ethos

At Barton Moss Primary School, we recognise that in order to grow into happy, confident and successful adults, pupils need high-quality education that equips them with the knowledge, skills and values to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships.

Our RSHE provision is underpinned by our school vision of ensuring that every child has the opportunity to shine and is prepared for a future of possibilities. We adopt a whole-school approach to Relationships, Sex and Health Education that is inclusive, sensitive, age-appropriate and firmly rooted in safeguarding.

We believe that RSHE is a lifelong process of learning that begins in the Early Years and develops progressively throughout primary school. Through this curriculum, pupils are supported to understand themselves, respect others, manage change, recognise risk and seek help when needed. We work in close partnership with parents and carers and value their role as primary educators in their children's lives.

2. Statutory Context and Guidance

This policy has been developed in line with the **Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance for Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (published July 2025, statutory from 1 September 2026).**

The school has due regard to the following legislation and guidance:

- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (DfE, 2025)
- Education Act 2002 (Section 80A)
- Education Act 1996 (Section 403)
- Equality Act 2010
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (latest version)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children

- Children Act 2004
- PSHE Association Programme of Study

This policy applies to all pupils, staff, governors and visitors involved in the delivery of RSHE.

3. Aims

The aims of RSHE at Barton Moss are to:

- Provide an effective RSHE programme that meets statutory requirements and the needs of all pupils
- Support pupils to understand physical, emotional and social changes as they grow
- Promote positive mental health, wellbeing and self-esteem
- Equip pupils with skills to form healthy, respectful relationships
- Teach pupils how to keep themselves safe, both online and offline
- Foster respect, empathy and understanding of others
- Promote equality and prevent discrimination
- Support safeguarding by enabling pupils to recognise risk and seek help
- Prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life

4. Guiding Principles

RSHE at Barton Moss is guided by the following principles:

- Teaching is **age-appropriate, inclusive and sensitive**
- Content is **factual, balanced and rooted in the law**
- Pupils learn the **correct terminology for body parts**, including genitalia, as a safeguarding measure
- Teaching emphasises **skills development** (communication, boundary-setting, help-seeking) alongside knowledge
- A **neutral and careful approach** is taken to topics that may be complex or contested
- RSHE supports **safeguarding, wellbeing and personal safety**
- Teachers exercise **professional judgement** in response to pupil need and context

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body monitors the implementation of this policy and ensures that statutory requirements are met.

Senior Leadership Team and PSHE Lead

The PSHE Lead, supported by the Senior Leadership Team:

- Oversees curriculum implementation
- Provides guidance and support for staff
- Ensures access to appropriate training
- Monitors and evaluates provision

Staff

All staff have a duty of care to:

- Deliver RSHE in line with this policy
- Create a safe, respectful learning environment
- Model positive relationships
- Follow safeguarding procedures where concerns arise

6. Safeguarding and Confidentiality

RSHE is a key safeguarding curriculum area. Staff understand that pupils may share personal or sensitive information during RSHE lessons.

- Pupils are told that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed if a disclosure raises a safeguarding concern
- Staff follow school safeguarding procedures and record concerns using CPOMS
- All staff receive regular safeguarding training
- Lessons establish clear ground rules to ensure a safe learning environment

7. Curriculum Design and Delivery

Barton Moss uses the Kapow scheme of work to support our PSHE and RSHE curriculum, which is adapted to reflect:

- Statutory 2026 requirements
- The needs of our pupils
- The local community context

RSHE is taught primarily through PSHE lessons and is supported through:

- Assemblies
- RE and Science links
- Cross-curricular learning
- Carefully selected stories, discussions and reflection activities

Teaching methods include discussion, group work, role play, circle time and age-appropriate resources. Pupils are usually taught in mixed-gender classes, with flexibility where appropriate.

8. Personal Safety and Online Safety

In line with updated statutory guidance, pupils learn how to:

- Recognise and reduce risk in everyday situations
- Keep safe around roads, railways and water
- Stay safe in public spaces
- Understand online risks including scams, gaming harms, misuse of data and misleading content
- Show respect, consent and responsibility in online environments
- Know how and where to seek help

9. Equality, Diversity and Respect

RSHE at Barton Moss promotes equality and respect for all.

Pupils learn about:

- Different family structures
- Protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010
- Treating others with kindness, fairness and empathy

Teaching about sex and gender is factual and rooted in the law. The school does not teach contested theories as fact and takes a neutral, age-appropriate approach, ensuring pupils are not confused or pressured into particular viewpoints.

10. Parental Engagement and Right to Withdraw

Parents and carers are key partners in RSHE. The school:

- Consults parents when reviewing this policy
- Provides opportunities for parents to view representative curriculum materials
- Encourages open communication about RSHE content

Parents may request to withdraw their child from **sex education beyond the National Curriculum for science**. Relationships education and health education are statutory and cannot be withdrawn from.

11. Curriculum Overview (Summary)

Early Years

- Body awareness, hygiene, independence and recognising trusted adults

Key Stage 1

- Body parts, personal boundaries, growing and changing, respectful relationships

Key Stage 2

- Puberty and physical changes
- Emotional wellbeing
- Healthy relationships
- Personal safety and online safety
- Preparing for adolescence

Sexual intercourse is **not taught at primary level**.

12. Monitoring, Assessment and Review

RSHE is monitored and evaluated through:

- Lesson observations
- Pupil voice
- Staff feedback
- Curriculum reviews led by the PSHE Lead

This policy will be reviewed every two years, or earlier if required by changes in statutory guidance.

13. Conclusion

Barton Moss Primary School is committed to delivering high-quality Relationships, Sex and Health Education that supports safeguarding, wellbeing and equality. Through a carefully planned, statutory-compliant curriculum, we aim to prepare our pupils for life with confidence, respect and resilience.