Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (RSE) Policy 2025-2027

Addendum- November 2026

Rationale for addendum

The UK government's updated statutory guidance for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE), following a public consultation, comes into force on **September 1, 2026**, this update replaces the previous 2019 rules. This is available online here: Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education - GOV.UK

At Highworth Warneford School we undertake a consultation with all stakeholders biennially. Our most recent RSE and PSHE policies were published in Spring 2025, and will updated in Spring 2027. In the interim these additional points (added in blue text) form part of our RSE policy in light of the new statutory requirements.

***2.1 Statutory Requirements**

The DfE updated the guidance in 2025 (for introduction September 1st 2026)

***2.7 Staffing and responsibilities**

Tutors are responsible for:

• Delivering RSE in a sensitive and impartial way.

• Setting clear ground rules.

• Following safeguarding procedures (and undertake the required training)

• Modelling positive attitudes to PSHE.

• Monitoring progress of pupils through checking of books.

• Responding to the needs of individual pupils.

• *To encourage pupils to ask questions (in person or anonymously) and to signpost where pupils could get further information, advice and support for difficult questions.*

*** 2.8 Partnership with parents and carers**

Inform parents when RSE content will be delivered *and invite them to review the resources*

***3.1. References**

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6970e7e67e827090d02d42e0/Relationships_education_relationships_and_sex_education__RSE__and_health_education__for_intro_1_September_2026_.pdf

Summary of curriculum changes:

Year group	**Statutory content**	**Which lesson/s will this be covered in?**
All years	AI literacy- explicit awareness of AI generated imagery, deepfakes and AI chatbots	Embedded within PSHE lessons (Digital deception) and computing lessons
All years	Online wellbeing- respectful digital communication, avoiding harmful online content, online conspiracy theories, online scams and recognising fake social media profiles	Embedded within PSHE lessons and computing lessons
Year 10	Online Misogyny- spotting the influence of online extremist or misogynistic subcultures, such as 'incels' (involuntary celibate)	Year 10- Term 2 - Social Influence
All years Year 7	Personal safety- expanded to include fire, water, rail and road safety	Covered as part of tutor programme. Term 1 – Intro to HWS
Year 9	The law regarding biological sex and gender reassignment	Covered as part of the 'Protected Characteristics' education. Embedded within PSHE lessons.

All years	Positive femininity and positive masculinity	Healthy and constructive expressions of gender-associated trait embedded in all PSHE lessons.
Year 10	The importance of routine vaccinations	Year 10- Term 3- Personal Safety
Year 10	The dangers of buying counterfeit medicine online	Year 10- Term 3 Personal Safety
Year 9-	A greater emphasis on *'just because you give consent does not make it ethically ok'.*	Consent lesson- Term 5, but also discussed every time we look at consent in Year 7,8,9,10
Year 9 and 10	The law regarding dangerous sexual acts such as suffocation and strangulation.	Year 9- Term 5- Consent and the law. Year 10- Term 5- The dangers of pornography Year 11 – Term 4 The dangers of Pornography
Year 10	Medical consent and Gillick competency/ Fraser guidelines	Year 10- Term 3 Personal Safety (also discussed in basic terms in Year 7- Term 2- staying healthy)