Weeton St Michael's
CHURCH of ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) POLICY

Written: October 2026
Review Due: October 2027 (following approval)

DRAFT FOR PARENT CONSULTATION — NOT APPROVED

From Small Beginnings, Great Things Grow

Christian Values:
Happiness, Empathy, Achieve, Respect and Trust

School vision:
"From Small Beginnings, Great Things Grow"

underpinned by The Parable of The Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31-32)

Relationships Education and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

School	Weeton St Michael's Church of England Primary School
Policy owner	Luke Smith, Headteacher
Status	DRAFT – for consultation with parents and carers; not yet approved
Consultation	October–November 2026
Approval and review	Governing Body – approval date to be confirmed; annual review after approval

This document sets out the school's proposed approach. The proposal concerning additional Year 6 sex education is open for consultation and has not been decided.

1. Purpose and school vision

At Weeton St Michael's C of E Primary School, our vision is "From Small Beginnings, Great Things Grow", rooted in the Parable of the Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31–32). Our Christian values are Happiness, Empathy, Achieve, Respect and Trust. We want every child to develop respectful relationships, care for their physical and mental wellbeing, recognise risk and know how to seek help.

We aim to provide Relationships Education and Health Education which is factual, age-appropriate, inclusive and sensitive to pupils' needs. Teaching reflects the school's Christian character while treating everyone with dignity and respect, including families of different forms and people with different beliefs.

2. Legal and statutory framework

This policy has regard to the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education statutory guidance in force from 1 September 2026, the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, the Children and Social Work Act 2017, the Equality Act 2010 and relevant National Curriculum Science requirements.

Relationships Education is statutory in primary schools. Health Education is statutory in state-funded primary schools. Relevant National Curriculum Science content is compulsory. Additional sex education beyond that content is not compulsory at primary school, although the DfE recommends that schools teach age-appropriate sex education in Year 5 and/or Year 6.

This policy should be read alongside the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, PSHE curriculum information, Science curriculum, SEND and Inclusion policies, Equality arrangements, Online Safety Policy and Complaints Policy.

3. What we teach through SCARF

We use Coram SCARF as our PSHE programme from Reception to Year 6. Relationships Education and Health Education are taught progressively through planned SCARF lessons, with links to Science, computing, religious education, collective worship and the wider life of the school. The six SCARF themes are:

- Me and My Relationships
- Valuing Difference
- Keeping Myself Safe
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Being My Best
- Growing and Changing

Across the school, pupils learn about families, friendship, kindness, respectful behaviour, personal boundaries, identifying unsafe situations, consent in age-appropriate everyday contexts, help-seeking, emotional wellbeing, physical health and staying safe online. Teaching about puberty, menstruation, hygiene and correctly named body parts is introduced at appropriate stages before the end of primary school, not delayed until the summer term of Year 6.

Our final parent information will be accompanied by the school's current Reception–Year 6 SCARF curriculum overview, showing the actual lessons and year groups taught. Teachers and school leaders will check that the selected SCARF content covers the statutory 2026 requirements; the use of a published scheme does not remove the school's responsibility for this check.

4. Additional sex education in Year 6 – consultation proposal

The school is consulting parents and carers before deciding whether to offer any additional, non-statutory sex education in Year 6. No decision has yet been made. If it is introduced, the proposed additional lesson(s) would be taught by Year 6 class teachers, to Year 6 only, in the summer term using reviewed SCARF resources.

For the consultation, the specific option being considered is an age-appropriate lesson explaining how human conception can occur through sexual intercourse, together with pregnancy and birth; the SCARF "Making Babies" resource also refers to IVF. This would be identified separately from statutory Relationships Education, Health Education and Science. It would not involve teaching pupils how to engage in sexual activity.

The school is not proposing to adopt every optional SCARF sex education lesson. SCARF materials on HIV or explicit online sexual content would not automatically be part of the Year 6 programme; any future proposal would be reviewed separately, with safeguarding need, pupil needs, policy and parent communication considered.

The consultation will consider whether the additional Year 6 lesson should be included, and parents' views about its content, timing and support for discussions at home. After feedback and governing body consideration, this section and the final curriculum appendix will be updated to record the school's decision. Until then, no new optional Year 6 sex education lesson will be introduced under this draft policy.

5. Teaching and organisation

Class teachers deliver the planned SCARF curriculum during the school year. Any optional additional Year 6 sex education which is approved will be delivered by the Year 6 class teacher(s) during the summer term. The school does not currently plan to use an external provider for these lessons.

Teachers will use appropriate language and diagrams, create a calm and respectful atmosphere, agree ground rules and avoid requiring pupils to share personal experiences. Materials will be checked by school leaders for accuracy, suitability, accessibility and compliance with the statutory guidance. Teaching will be responsive to pupils' maturity, understanding and safeguarding needs.

6. Responding to pupils' questions

Pupils may ask questions that go beyond the planned curriculum. Staff will listen respectfully, answer factual and age-appropriate questions that fall within the taught content, and avoid introducing unnecessary detail to the whole class. When a question requires a more individual response, the teacher may follow up privately, speak with parents where appropriate, or seek guidance from the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Questions that indicate possible harm or abuse will be dealt with through safeguarding procedures. A pupil will never be criticised for asking a genuine question.

7. Equality, inclusion and SEND

All pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), will be able to access the statutory curriculum. Staff will make reasonable adjustments to language, pacing, communication and teaching approaches. Where appropriate, additional visual support, repetition, pre-teaching and individual clarification will be provided. We will teach about different families and relationships with dignity and respect, while being clear when explaining a distinctive Christian perspective.

8. Safeguarding and confidentiality

Relationships Education and Health Education help children recognise unsafe situations, understand that their body belongs to them and know whom to tell if something worries them. Teachers cannot promise absolute confidentiality. Any disclosure or concern will be reported promptly through the school's

safeguarding procedures to Luke Smith, Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead, or Emily Bickerstaffe, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, as appropriate.

9. Parents, carers and curriculum resources

The school recognises parents and carers as children's first educators and is committed to working openly with families. Parents can read this draft policy, view the curriculum overview, request to see the classroom materials that will be used and ask for a conversation with school leaders. The school will show representative examples and make all relevant classroom RSHE materials available to parents on request, while respecting applicable copyright arrangements.

Before any additional Year 6 sex education lessons are delivered, parents will be told precisely which lessons are planned, what they cover, when they will take place and how to request withdrawal. We will also signpost age-appropriate support for conversations at home.

10. Right to withdraw

There is no right to withdraw a child from statutory Relationships Education, statutory Health Education or National Curriculum Science, including the relevant science teaching about growth, puberty and reproduction.

If the school decides to provide additional sex education in Year 6, parents have the right to have their child withdrawn from any or all of that additional sex education. A request should be made in writing to the Headteacher. The Headteacher will offer to discuss the request and explain the teaching, but will grant the withdrawal from non-statutory primary sex education. Suitable supervised learning will be provided while the lesson takes place.

If the school chooses not to teach additional sex education, there will be no optional sex education lessons from which to withdraw. The withdrawal arrangements will be updated once the consultation decision has been made.

11. Parent consultation and decisions

This is the school's first formal consultation on this policy. The draft will be shared with all parents and carers alongside a summary of the SCARF curriculum and information about the additional Year 6 option. Feedback will be invited using Microsoft Forms, with alternative ways to respond for anyone unable to use the online form. The school will offer opportunities to discuss questions or view teaching resources.

The consultation is not a vote on the statutory curriculum. Leaders and governors will consider feedback, pupil needs, safeguarding, the school's Christian ethos and the DfE recommendation for primary sex education before agreeing the final policy. The school will record the consultation, key themes and any changes made; the final decision and approved policy will be communicated to families.

12. Roles, monitoring and review

- Governing Body: approve the final policy after consultation and oversee compliance, inclusion and review.
- Headteacher: lead implementation, parental engagement, safeguarding and arrangements for any withdrawal requests.
- Class teachers: deliver agreed SCARF lessons, adapt teaching to pupils' needs and raise any safeguarding concerns.
- PSHE subject leader (postholder to be confirmed): oversee the curriculum map, staff support and evaluation of learning.

School leaders will monitor planning, pupil voice, lesson delivery, coverage and feedback. The policy will be reviewed annually after approval, or sooner if legislation, guidance, curriculum provision or pupil needs change. Parents will be consulted when the policy is reviewed.

13. Consultation and approval record

Consultation opened	12th October 2026

Consultation closed	9th November 2026
Parents and carers informed by	Class Dojo
Feedback reviewed on	9th November 2026
Decision on optional Year 6 provision	9th November 2026
Approved by Governing Body	TBC

Headteacher: Luke Smith
Chair of Governors: Jed Sullivan Date: 12th October 2026

Appendix A – Curriculum information for parents (summary)

The table below is an overview of proposed progression, not a substitute for the school's exact SCARF lesson-by-lesson map. Attach the verified Reception–Year 6 SCARF curriculum overview before circulating the policy.

Stage	**Statutory** Relationships and Health Education (no right to withdraw)	Additional sex education
Reception / KS1	Families, friendships, feelings, kindness, boundaries, personal safety, knowing trusted adults; age-appropriate health and hygiene.	None proposed.
Lower KS2	Respectful relationships, online safety, physical and emotional wellbeing; age-appropriate development and preparation for puberty.	None proposed.
Upper KS2 (Years 5–6)	Puberty, menstruation, hygiene, anatomical vocabulary, safeguarding, help-seeking, healthy relationships and safe online behaviour, reinforced and extended.	Year 6 summer term: factual conception, pregnancy and birth lesson under consultation; not yet approved.

IMPORTANT: The statutory curriculum is delivered across primary school, not solely in Year 6. Parent consultation cannot remove required content from Relationships Education, Health Education or Science.

Sources for implementation: Department for Education statutory RSHE guidance (September 2026) and Coram SCARF RSHE guidance, FAQs and curriculum mapping.