



## Relationships, Sex and Health Education Consultation

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our commitment to working in partnership with families, Ridgeway Farm CE Academy is reviewing its Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Policy in line with the Department for Education's updated statutory guidance (July 2025), which becomes mandatory from September 2026.

Statutory guidance requires schools to proactively engage and consult parents when developing or reviewing their RSHE policy. We are therefore inviting your feedback on the full RSHE policy and specifically on whether the school should introduce non-statutory Sex Education in Upper Key Stage 2.

### What Is Statutory in Primary Schools?

All primary schools must teach:

- Relationships Education (no right to withdraw)
- Health Education, including puberty (no right to withdraw)
- Human reproduction as part of the National Curriculum for Science (no right to withdraw)

These elements are required by law and are not optional.

### What Is Sex Education in a Primary Context?

In primary schools, Sex Education refers specifically to teaching about how babies are conceived through sexual intercourse.

It does not include puberty, menstruation, correct anatomical terminology, different types of families, healthy relationships, or safeguarding education. These are statutory elements of Relationships and Health Education.

Primary schools are not required to teach Sex Education within PSHE. However, the DfE recommends that schools consider whether to introduce age-appropriate Sex Education in Years 5 and/or 6.

### **Our Current Position**

We currently teach statutory Relationships Education, Health Education (including puberty), and National Curriculum Science (including reproduction in Year 6). We do not currently teach additional non-statutory Sex Education within PSHE.

### **What We Are Consulting On**

We are seeking parental views on:

1. The full RSHE Policy and overall approach.
2. Whether the school should continue not to teach additional Sex Education OR introduce age-appropriate Sex Education in Upper Key Stage 2.

If Sex Education were introduced, parents would retain the legal right to request withdrawal. Any future content would be shared with parents in advance.

### **Transparency and Viewing Materials**

You may read the full draft RSHE policy and supporting documents attached. Parents may also request to view representative lesson materials or arrange a meeting to discuss the curriculum.

### **Consultation Process**

Please complete the attached consultation response form by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026. The Governing Body will review all feedback, consider themes raised, and make a final decision. A summary of outcomes will be shared with parents.

Parents are not able to veto curriculum content; however, we are committed to carefully considering and responding to parental views.

Yours sincerely,



Laura Gibbard

Headteacher