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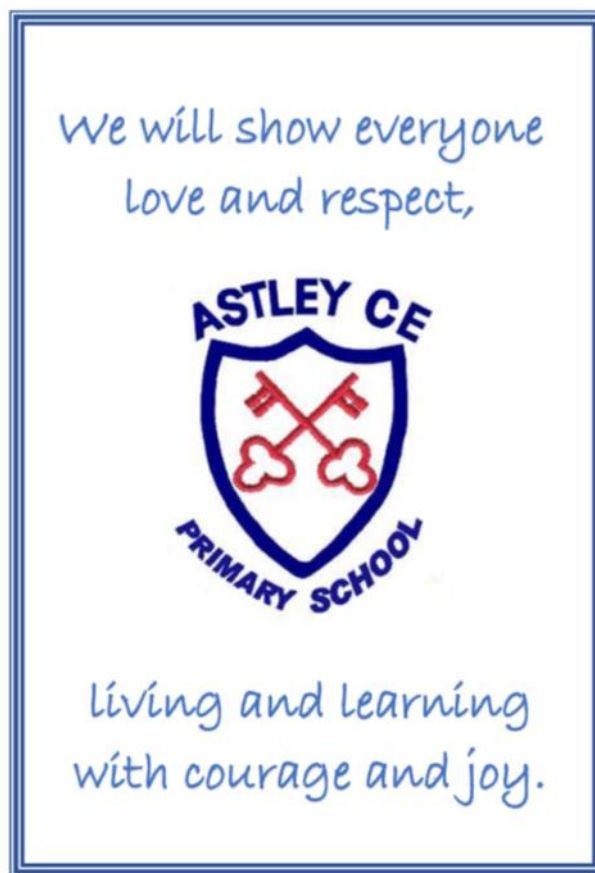


Governing body

Relationships and Health  
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**Our Vision and Values**



Astley School recognises that our values are at the heart of every curriculum area presented to our pupils and Relationships and Health Education (RHE) is no exception. Our values of love, respect, courage and joy enable our teaching and learning in this area to celebrate the uniqueness and intrinsic value of individuals, to acknowledge differences without being disagreeable, to be prepared to make individual choices based on our own moral code and to promote a strong sense of community and our place and responsibility within it.

Ratified by the Governing Body: November 2023

Date for review: July 2025

Signed by:

*LScreen*  
*Langfield*

Chair of governors Lisa Screen

Headteacher Tracie Langfield

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Our school's approach to Relationship and Health Education (RHE) follows that of the Church of England Education Office in that it seeks to be faith-sensitive and inclusive. It is underpinned by two key Biblical passages:

*"So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them" (Genesis 2:7)*

*"I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness" (John 10:10)*

At Astley C.E. Primary School, everyone will be treated with dignity as all people who are made in the image of God and are loved equally by God.

All pupils have a right to an education which enables them to flourish and is set in a learning community where differences of lifestyle and opinion (within that which is permissible under UK law) are treated with dignity and respect; where bullying of all kinds is eliminated; and where they are free to be themselves and fulfil their potential without fear.

Our school seeks to ensure that the RHE curriculum protects, informs and nurtures all pupils. It clearly differentiates between factual teaching (biology, medicine, the law, marriage, different types of families and the composition of society) and moral teaching about relationships and values, recognising that the distinction can be easily blurred and that there needs to be discernment about the manner in which this is taught. We teach RHE within a moral (but not moralistic) framework.

RHE in Astley C.E. Primary School is about what constitutes well-being and loving care for ourselves (physical and mental health education) and how we show loving care for others (relationships education). It is also about the spiritual and moral aspects of healthy, loving and nurturing relationships within a context of a Christian vision for the purpose of life.

Pupils will consider how to ensure that they treat themselves and others, at all times and in all contexts, with dignity and respect.

### **Defining Relationships Education**

Relationships Education is learning about how to:

- be appreciative of existing relationships;
- form new healthy friendships; and
- enjoy strong positive, caring, relationships with good boundaries, online and in person.

This will particularly refer to family relationships (including marriage), friendships and relationships with peers and adults.

In this school any content that might be regarded as sex education (learning about human body parts, growth, puberty and gestation) will be taught through the health or science curricula. Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from these aspects of the curriculum.

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### **Defining Health Education**

Health education is learning about physical health and mental wellbeing so that pupils can make wise choices to ensure their own flourishing and the flourishing of others.

### **The RHE Curriculum**

At Astley C.E. Primary School we teach Relationship and Health Education as part of the wider Personal Social, Health and Economic education non-statutory curriculum in half termly units of work ensuring a comprehensive and rigorous approach to the subject. We use the SCARF syllabus to support teachers in their planning of the teaching and learning.

### **How will RHE be taught in our school?**

RHE will be delivered professionally and as an identifiable part of PSHE. It will be led, resourced and reported to parents in the same way as any other subject. There will be a planned programme delivered in a carefully sequenced way.

RHE will be delivered in a way that affords dignity and shows respect to all who make up our diverse community. It will not discriminate against any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act and will be sensitive to the faith and beliefs of those in the wider school community. RHE will seek to explain fairly the tenets and varying interpretations of religious communities on matters of relationships and teach these viewpoints with respect. It will value the importance of faithfulness as the underpinning and backdrop for relationships. It will encourage pupils to develop the skills needed to disagree without being disagreeable, to appreciate the lived experience of other people and to live well together.

RHE will seek to build resilience in our pupils to help them form healthy relationships, to keep themselves safe and resist the harmful influence of the excesses of media in all its forms. Staff will use formal and scientific words when discussing or delivering content as specified in the SCARF programme and the NC Science programme of study, enabling children to communicate and articulate their understanding more easily. Staff will not use informal language in school.

RHE will promote healthy resilient relationships set in the context of character and virtue development that sits within the school's Christian vision and values.

Our school values – love, respect, courage and joy - will be used throughout our Relationships and Health teaching to enable children to evaluate choices they may make now or in the future.

All staff teaching this sensitive and important subject will have received training. This training will be regularly reviewed and revisited.

Pupils with SEND will have equal access to the Relationship and Health curriculum. They will access the learning with their class and bespoke adaptations will be made by the teacher for each individual pupil if needed.

At Astley C.E. Primary School RHE is taught by confident school staff who know the pupils well. This ensures that pupils have confidence in the teacher and that a 'safe space' is created where pupils can ask age-appropriate questions. Where it is deemed to be advantageous, visiting speakers may teach

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some elements of the curriculum (such as First Aid or aspects about puberty). In these instances, the teacher remains in charge of the lesson and fully present at all times.

#### **How RHE will be monitored and evaluated**

This will follow the same monitoring and evaluation processes used throughout the school for other subjects i.e. pupil conferencing, work reviews, learning walks and book scrutiny.

#### **Policy Review**

This policy has been produced in consultation with Governors (Curriculum Committee) and parents. Wherever possible all views from parents will be listened to and taken into account. It must, however, be recognised that the law specifies what is taught and how it is taught is ultimately a decision for the school.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following:

The Equalities Act 2010 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance>

[DfE Relationships Education](#), Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education Statutory Guidance September 2021

CORAM Life Education (SCARF) [FAQ](#)

[DfE Relationships Education and Health Education Statutory requirements](#) linked to SCARF lessons

Diocese of Worcester [supporting documentation](#) - *Valuing All Gods Children*

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## DfE Statutory Guidance Categories: Relationships Education (Primary)

### By the end of primary schools pupils should know:

<p><b>Families and people who care for me (FPC)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability.</li> <li>2. the characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives.</li> <li>3. that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care.</li> <li>4. that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up.</li> <li>5. that marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong.</li> <li>6. how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Caring friendships (CF)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.</li> <li>2. the characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties.</li> <li>3. that healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded.</li> <li>4. that most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right.</li> <li>5. how to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Respectful relationships (RR)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs.</li> <li>2. practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.</li> <li>3. the conventions of courtesy and manners.</li> <li>4. the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness.</li> <li>5. that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority.</li> <li>6. about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help.</li> <li>7. what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive.</li> <li>8. the importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Online relationships (OR)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not.</li> <li>2. that the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous.</li> <li>3. the rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them.</li> <li>4. how to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met.</li> <li>5. how information and data is shared and used online.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Being safe (BS)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. what sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context).</li> <li>2. about the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe.</li> <li>3. that each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact.</li> <li>4. how to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know.</li> <li>5. how to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult.</li> <li>6. how to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard,</li> <li>7. how to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so.</li> <li>8. where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources.</li> </ol>

## DfE Statutory Guidance Categories: Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing (Primary)

### By the end of primary school pupils should know:

<b>Mental Wellbeing (MW)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.</li> <li>2. that there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations.</li> <li>3. how to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings.</li> <li>4. how to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate.</li> <li>5. the benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, voluntary and service-based activity on mental wellbeing and happiness.</li> <li>6. simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family and the benefits of hobbies and interests.</li> <li>7. isolation and loneliness can affect children and that it is very important for children to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support.</li> <li>8. that bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental wellbeing.</li> <li>9. where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for seeking support), including whom in school they should speak to if they are worried about their own or someone else's mental wellbeing or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online).</li> <li>10. it is common for people to experience mental ill health. For many people who do, the problems can be resolved if the right support is made available, especially if accessed early enough.</li> </ol>
<b>Internet safety and harms (ISH)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that for most people the internet is an integral part of life and has many benefits.</li> <li>2. about the benefits of rationing time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical wellbeing.</li> <li>3. how to consider the effect of their online actions on others and know how to recognise and display respectful behaviour online and the importance of keeping personal information private.</li> <li>4. why social media, some computer games and online gaming, for example, are age restricted.</li> <li>5. that the internet can also be a negative place where online abuse, trolling, bullying and harassment can take place, which can have a negative impact on mental health.</li> <li>6. how to be a discerning consumer of information online including understanding that information, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted.</li> <li>7. where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online</li> </ol>
<b>Physical health and fitness (PHF)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle.</li> <li>2. the importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise.</li> <li>3. the risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity).</li> <li>4. how and when to seek support including which adults to speak to in school if they are worried about their health.</li> </ol>
<b>Healthy eating (HE)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. what constitutes a healthy diet (including understanding calories and other nutritional content).</li> <li>2. the principles of planning and preparing a range of healthy meals.</li> <li>3. the characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating (including, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health).</li> </ol>
<b>Drugs, alcohol and tobacco (DAT)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking.</li> </ol>
<b>Health and prevention (HP)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. how to recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss, or unexplained changes to the body.</li> <li>2. about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer.</li> <li>3. the importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and that a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.</li> <li>4. about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including regular check-ups at the dentist.</li> <li>5. about personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of hand washing.</li> <li>6. the facts and science relating to allergies, immunisation and vaccination.</li> </ol>
<b>Basic first aid (BFA)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. how to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary.</li> <li>2. concepts of basic first-aid, for example dealing with common injuries, including head injuries.</li> </ol>
<b>Changing adolescent body (CAB)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes.</li> <li>2. about menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle.</li> </ol>

## Year 2 Science curriculum – taught in either Year One or Two as part of a two year cycle.

### Animals, including humans

#### Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air)
- describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

#### Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Pupils should be introduced to the basic needs of animals for survival, as well as the importance of exercise and nutrition for humans. They should also be introduced to the processes of reproduction and growth in animals. The focus at this stage should be on questions that help pupils to recognise growth; they should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs.

#### Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

The following examples might be used: egg, chick, chicken; egg, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly; spawn, tadpole, frog; lamb, sheep. Growing into adults can include reference to baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult.

Pupils might work scientifically by: observing, through video or first-hand observation and measurement, how different animals, including humans, grow; asking questions about what things animals need for survival and what humans need to stay healthy; and suggesting ways to find answers to their questions.

## Year 5 Science curriculum – taught in either Year Five or Six as part of a two year cycle.

### Living things and their habitats

#### Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.

#### Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Pupils should study and raise questions about their local environment throughout the year. They should observe life-cycle changes in a variety of living things, for example, plants in the vegetable garden or flower border, and animals in the local environment. They should find out about the work of naturalists and animal behaviourists, for example, David Attenborough and Jane Goodall.

Pupils should find out about different types of reproduction, including sexual and asexual reproduction in plants, and sexual reproduction in animals.

Pupils might work scientifically by: observing and comparing the life cycles of plants and animals in their local environment with other plants and animals around the world (in the rainforest, in the oceans, in desert areas and in prehistoric times), asking pertinent questions and suggesting reasons for similarities and differences. They might try to grow new plants from different parts of the parent plant, for example, seeds, stem and root cuttings, tubers, bulbs. They might observe changes in an animal over a period of time (for example, by hatching and rearing chicks), comparing how different animals reproduce and grow.