

# Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Information for parents



The Welsh Government believes that all young people should have the right to access information that keeps them safe from harm. This includes learning about healthy relationships, keeping safe including online, and being confident to raise issues with responsible adults.

Parents, of course, have a central role to play in this. But there is also a crucial role for schools - especially in a world where there is so much information, including misinformation and harmful materials, circulating online.

Schools create safe and empowering environments and the new Curriculum for Wales will build on and promote this. This is why Welsh Government is making RSE a statutory requirement in the new curriculum in Wales, which will be introduced from 2022.



## DEVELOPING THE DRAFT RSE CODE AND STATUTORY GUIDANCE

The Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill has been passed and is awaiting Royal Assent.

The Welsh Government is working with Welsh teaching professionals and experts to develop clarity on what should be taught within RSE ('the RSE Code') and statutory guidance sitting alongside this to support high quality teaching and learning. The Code is important as it will set out clearly what children should be taught at different ages, so ensure that learning is developmentally appropriate.

In developing the draft RSE code and statutory guidance, the Welsh Government is talking to a range of different groups, including faith groups and groups representing the interests of children and young people. The guidance on RSE is being co-constructed with these professionals and representatives to develop a shared understanding of the issues and the sensitivities. This is vital to enable everyone to have trust in how this will be implemented.

The draft RSE code and statutory guidance will be published as soon as possible.



## A DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION (RSE)

RSE will need to be developmentally appropriate for children and young people – for example a child in the Foundation Phase is currently taught about relationships with parents, family and friends. This will continue.

The aim is to gradually build learners knowledge, skills and ethical values as they develop. We want them to have the tools to be able to understand how relationships, sex, gender and sexuality shape their own and other people's lives: but only at the appropriate times and ages.

This includes recognising, understanding and speaking out about discrimination and violence and know how and where to seek support and advice on a range of issues.

## HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Before it is taught, Welsh Government will consult on the draft RSE code and statutory guidance. This includes engaging with parents, carers and the wider community.

If you want to be notified of when the consultation goes live you can sign up to alerts from the Welsh Government website  
<https://gov.wales/subscribe/consultations>