

BENEDICT HOUSE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Policy and Schemes of work for PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education)

**(BASED ON JIGSAW)
(Including the EYFS)**

Policy Reviewed by Laura Baker

Review date: 1st September 2026

Next review date: 1st September 2027

Jigsaw PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) **Policy including Relationships Education, Sex Education** **and Health Education**



Benedict House Preparatory School

Towards the Future as a Family

Values: Respect, Resilience, Integrity,

Teamwork, Empathy

Mission Statement

Everything that happens at Benedict House has the pupils and their individual needs at heart. We create an environment in which children are happy, motivated to achieve and enthusiastic about their learning. Our philosophy is founded on the belief that every child is an individual and with encouragement, hard work and praise can develop their potential to the full and achieve high standards. It is the responsibility of the school to provide a secure and nurturing environment where pupils enjoy learning and grow into confident and happy individuals ready to face the diversity of future challenges and capable of making informed choices and decisions.

Our Mission Statement captures succinctly who we are and what we strive to achieve at Benedict House Preparatory School. We seek to be a School where learning is at the centre; we seek to be a vibrant, caring School, providing an education rooted in the needs of each individual with a dynamic ethos; we seek to be affordable and supportive to parents and a haven for our pupils, enabling all who attend here to achieve their full potential and so equipping them to navigate the next stage in their adolescence.

Our Aims

- Ensure that areas of development and growth considered to be at the heart of a good, well-rounded education are successfully fostered from the Pre-School upwards, within a framework of excellent pastoral care.
- Be a school in which every pupil is known and valued personally.
- Ensure that there is a joy in living and learning amongst the pupils and a joy in the giving of this from all in our community which is exemplified from those who lead the School.
- To be a school in which pupils can grow and develop with confidence; where children and adults alike respond to the ethos of faith, encouragement and praise, which is the hallmark of the education.
- For all our visitors to sense that Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Teamwork and Empathy underpin the life of the school and that a tangible and timeless confidence permeates the industry and rhythm of the day.

In order to achieve these overall aims, we have the following specific intentions:

- To provide for all our pupils - our very youngest to the eldest - a curriculum that is broad, creative, balanced, functional, coherent and relevant;
- To assist all pupils in their journey of self-discovery;
- To support staff in their own journey of learning and of Community;
- To cultivate 'Community' in our day to day activity, interactions and thinking;
- To help our pupils to marvel and wonder in our teaching and their learning; to instil within each other an appreciation of their surroundings;
- To foster in all pupils a care and concern for others – to instil a compassionate spirit; to model in ourselves a giving, generous and kind heart.

Introduction

All schools must provide a curriculum that is broad, balanced and meets the needs of all pupils. Under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010, a PSHE curriculum:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

An amendment to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 made **Relationships and Health Education** at primary; and Relationships, Sex, and Health Education at secondary, statutory subjects. The updated 2026 DfE guidance on Relationships, Health and Sex Education for governing bodies can be seen [here](#). Please see our separate BHPS Relationships and Sex Education Policy for further detail on this.



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We are confident that the Jigsaw Programme covers all aspects of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) within the context of a full PSHE programme in an age-appropriate way. Should changes to these curriculum areas occur in the future, Jigsaw will provide its schools with materials to ensure all statutory duties are fulfilled.

Our school PSHE policy is also informed by DfE guidance on Relationships, Sex and Health Education (as above), **preventing and tackling bullying** (Preventing and tackling bullying: Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies, July 2013, updated 2017), **Drug and Alcohol Education** (DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools: Advice for local authorities, headteachers, school staff and governing bodies, September 2012), **safeguarding** (Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, March 2013 and **Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2021**) and **equality** (Equality Act 2010: Advice for school leaders, school staff, governing bodies and local authorities, revised June 2014).

The Jigsaw Programme meets all the outcomes in the PSHE Association Programmes of Study, 2017.

Aim and Objectives

- To provide pupils with the knowledge, understanding, attitudes, values and skills they need in order to reach their potential as individuals and within the community.
- Pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to the life of their school and communities. In doing so they learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up.
- They learn to understand and respect our common humanity; diversity and differences so that they can go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.
- In our school we choose to deliver Personal, Social, Health Education using Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE.

Jigsaw PSHE will support the development of the skills, attitudes, values and behaviour, which enable pupils to:

- Have a sense of purpose
- Value self and others
- Form relationships
- Make and act on informed decisions
- Communicate effectively

- Work with others
- Respond to challenge
- Be an active partner in their own learning
- Be active citizens within the local community
- Explore issues related to living in a democratic society
- Become healthy and fulfilled individuals

Jigsaw Content

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase, as the table below shows:

Term	Puzzle name	Content
Autumn 1:	Being Me in My World	Includes understanding my place in the class, school and global community as well as devising Learning Charters
Autumn 2:	Celebrating Difference	Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and diversity work
Spring 1:	Dreams and Goals	Includes goal-setting, aspirations and resilience building
Spring 2:	Healthy Me	Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices (on and off line)
Summer 1:	Relationships	Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills
Summer 2:	Changing Me	Includes Sex and Relationship Education in the context of looking at and managing change

Relationship and Sex Education (Relationships, Sex and Health Education)

Definition of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)

From September 2020, Relationships Education is compulsory for all primary schools as set out in the DfE Guidance (2019). This has been updated with further mandatory guidance from September 2026. For all maintained schools there is also a statutory duty to provide Health Education. This includes primary aged children learning about the 'changing adolescent body', included in the expected outcomes for primary Health



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Education. (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education, DfE, 2026). There is a current statutory duty for Independent schools to provide PSHE and they must meet the Independent School Standards as set out in the Education (Independent School Regulations 2014).

All primary schools are legally obliged to have an up-to-date policy for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) that describes the content and organisation of RSHE. In primary schools if the decision is taken to teach sex education beyond Relationships and Health Education and National Curriculum Science, this should also be documented in the policy. The policy should be made available to parents/carers on request and also available on the school's website.

Effective Relationships and Sex Education can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables children and young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being. This is why the DfE recommend:

"...recommend that primaries teach sex education in years 5 and/or 6, in line with content about conception and birth, which forms part of the national curriculum for science. The national curriculum for science includes subject content in related areas, such as the main external body parts, the human body as it grows from birth to old age (including puberty) and reproduction in some plants and animals. Schools may also cover human reproduction in the science curriculum, but where they do so, this should be in line with the factual description of conception in the science curriculum.."

(Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education, DfE, 2026, para 30).

Compulsory aspects of Relationships, Sex and Health Education.

End of primary expectations and curriculum content is given in the updated Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education DfE guidance (2026). It is up to schools to determine how this is taught as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. Where a school delivers this as part of a whole programme of PSHE, such as Jigsaw, they are free to continue with this approach.

The sex education contained in National Curriculum science (Key Stages 1–4) is compulsory in maintained schools.

- 'All children, including those who develop earlier than average, need to know about puberty before they experience the onset of physical changes' (1.13)
- Children should learn 'how a baby is conceived and born' before they leave primary school (1.16)

RSHE plays a very important part in fulfilling the statutory duties all schools have to meet. RSHE helps children understand the difference between safe and abusive relationships and equips them with the skills to get help if they need it. It also teaches them about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and positive mental health, about online and off line safety. Schools have responsibilities for safeguarding and a legal duty to promote pupil well-being (Education and Inspections Act 2006 Section 38).



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- Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is an important part of PSHE Education (DfE, 2014).
- When any school provides RSE they must have regard to the Secretary of States guidance; this is a statutory duty. Ofsted will evaluate how schools help to ensure a healthy lifestyle for their children (Ofsted, 2019, Education Inspection Framework Para 28).
- It is compulsory for all maintained schools to teach the parts of sex education that fall under National Curriculum Science which must be taught to all pupils of primary and secondary age e.g. the biological aspects of puberty and reproduction (Education Act 1996, National Curriculum 2014).

Updated government safeguarding guidance is now available (Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2020) and includes a section about being alert to signs that young girls may be at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM). School summer holidays especially during the transition from primary to secondary schools is thought to be a key risk time for

FGM. See also the government [Multi-agency practice guidelines: Female Genital Mutilation \(2016\)](#) which includes a section for schools.

RSHE has clear links with other school policies aimed at promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

The role of the Headteacher and Proprietors

It is the responsibility of the Proprietor to ensure that as well as fulfilling their legal obligations, the boards or management committee should also make sure that:

- all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes in regard to RSHE;
- RSHE is well led, effectively managed and well planned;
- the quality of RSHE provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation;
- teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND;
- clear information is provided for parents on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn; and,
- the subjects are resourced, staffed and timetabled in a way that ensures that the school can fulfil its legal obligations

The Headteacher liaises with external agencies regarding the school RSHE programme and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework. The Headteacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to director advisors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy. Parents should be consulted on the RSE policy and have the opportunity to express their views. They also must be informed of the limits of their right to withdraw their child from sex education and have the opportunity to do so within these limits.



Monitoring and Review

The policy is reviewed on an annual basis. Parents and carers have the right to see sample materials used within the teaching of RHSE and can do so by prior appointment with a member of staff, or at any open evening the school chooses to hold about this curriculum area.

Equalities

The Equality Act 2010 covers the way the curriculum is delivered, as schools and other education providers must ensure that issues are taught in a way that does not subject pupils to discrimination. Schools have a duty under the Equality Act to ensure that teaching is accessible to all children and young people, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT). Inclusive RSHE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice – including homophobia – and promote understanding and respect. The Department for Education has produced advice on The Equality Act 2010 and schools (DfE, 2014b).

Schools have a legal duty to promote equality (Equality Act, 2010) and to combat bullying (Education Act, 2006) (which includes homophobic, sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying) and Section 4.2 of the national curriculum (2014) states “Teachers should take account of their duties under equal opportunities legislation that covers race, disability, sex, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.”

“Both within and beyond the classroom, staff should be conscious of everyday sexism, misogyny, homophobia and stereotypes, and should take action to build a culture where prejudice is identified and tackled. Staff have an important role in modelling positive behaviour and avoiding language that might perpetuate harmful stereotypes. Pupils should understand the importance of challenging harmful beliefs and attitudes and should understand the links between sexism and misogyny and violence against women and girls. Where misogynistic ideas are expressed at school, staff should challenge the ideas, rather than the person expressing them.” (DfE, 2026)

Withdrawal from RSE lessons

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from Sex Education provided at school except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum Science and that included within Statutory Relationships and Health Education. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the Headteacher and/or Jigsaw Lead in school who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the **specific sex education lessons** until the request for withdrawal has been removed. Materials are available to parents/carers who wish to supplement the school sex education programme or who wish to deliver sex education to their children at home. **Parents and carers cannot withdraw from any aspect of Relationships Education and also in maintained schools, Health Education lessons covering the changing adolescent body (puberty).**

Working with parents and carers

The government guidance on Relationships, Sex Education and Health Education (DfE, 2026) emphasises the importance of schools working in partnership with parents and carers. Parents/carers should be aware that schools are legally required to provide a broad and balanced curriculum. Sex and relationships topics can arise incidentally in other subjects, such as Science, Geography, History, RE, and it is not possible to withdraw pupils from these relatively limited and often unplanned discussions. Good communication and opportunities for parents to understand and ask questions about the school's approach can help increase confidence in the curriculum.

Girl's understanding of sanitary products and disposal in school

As part of lessons on puberty girls will be made aware of the procedures in place for accessing and the safe disposal of sanitary products. The school is aware that period poverty can be an issue for some pupils, and will to the best of its ability ensure that girls have access to appropriate sanitary products during school time.

Health Education including substance education, mental health education and safety education

Effective Health Education can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils as they grow up. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their own and others' health and well-being.



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Moral and Values Framework

The Health Education programme at our school reflects the school ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values. For example:

- Respect for self
- Respect for others
- Responsibility for their own actions
- Responsibility for their family, friends, schools and wider community



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Jigsaw's Health Education Content

The grid below shows specific Health Education content for each year group:

Age

4-5	Understanding feelings; Identifying talents; being special; challenges; perseverance; goal-setting; overcoming obstacles; seeking help; physical activity; healthy food; sleep; keeping clean; being safe; respecting my body; growing up; growth and change; fun and fears; celebrations.
5-6	Feeling special and safe; rewards and feeling proud; consequences; setting goals; identifying successes and achievements; tackling new challenges; identifying and overcoming obstacles; feelings of success; keeping myself healthy; healthier lifestyle choices (including oral health); keeping clean; being safe; medicine safety/safety with household items; road safety; linking health and happiness; people who help us; changes in me; changes since being a baby; linking growing and learning; coping with change.
6-7	Hopes and fears for the year; recognising feelings; achieving realistic goals; perseverance; motivation; healthier choices; relaxation; healthy eating and nutrition; healthier snacks and sharing food; growing from young to old.
7-8	Self-identity and worth; positivity in challenges; responsible choices; giving and receiving compliments; difficult challenges and achieving Success; dreams and ambitions; new challenges; motivation and enthusiasm; recognising and trying to overcome obstacles; evaluating learning processes; managing feelings; simple budgeting; exercise; fitness challenges; food labelling and healthy swaps; attitudes towards drugs; keeping safe and why it's important online and off line; respect for myself and others healthy and safe choices; body changes at puberty.
8-9	What motivates behaviour; rewards and consequences; accepting self and others; understanding influences; hopes and dreams; overcoming disappointment; creating new, realistic dreams; achieving goals; resilience; positive attitudes; healthier friendships; group dynamics; smoking; alcohol; assertiveness; peer pressure; celebrating inner strength; jealousy; love and loss; memories of loved ones; body changes at puberty.



9-10	Being a citizen; rights and responsibilities; rewards and consequences; how behaviour affects groups; democracy, having a voice, participating; material wealth and happiness; future dreams; the importance of money; jobs and careers; dream job and how to get there; goals in different cultures; supporting others (charity); motivation; smoking, including vaping; alcohol; alcohol and anti-social behaviour; emergency aid; body image; relationships with food; healthy and safe choices; motivation and behaviour; changes in the body at puberty.
10-11	Choices, consequences and rewards; group dynamics; democracy, having a voice; emotions in success; making a difference in the world; motivation; recognising achievements; compliments; taking personal responsibility; how substances affect the body; exploitation, including 'county lines' and gang culture; emotional and mental health; managing stress; mental health; identifying mental health worries and sources of support; love and loss; managing feelings; power and control; assertiveness; technology safety; take responsibility with technology use; self-image; body image; impact of media; discernment; puberty; reflections about change; respect and consent.

How is Jigsaw PSHE organised in school?

Jigsaw brings together PSHE Education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development in a comprehensive scheme of learning. Teaching strategies are varied and are mindful of preferred learning styles and the need for differentiation. Jigsaw is designed as a whole school approach, with all year groups working on the same theme (Puzzle) at the same time. This enables each Puzzle to start with an introductory assembly, generating a whole school focus for adults and children alike.

There are six Puzzles in Jigsaw that are designed to progress in sequence from Autumn to June/July. Each lesson has two Learning Intentions: one is based on specific PSHE learning (covering the non-statutory national framework for PSHE Education and the statutory Relationships and Health Education guidance, but enhanced to address children's needs today); and one is based on emotional literacy and social skills development to enhance children's emotional and mental health. The enhancements mean that Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, is relevant to children living in today's world as it helps them understand and be equipped to cope with issues like body image, cyber and homophobic bullying, and internet safety.

Differentiation/SEN

Jigsaw is written as a universal core curriculum provision for all children. Inclusivity is part of its philosophy. Teachers will need, as always, to tailor each Piece (lesson) to meet the needs of the children in their classes. To support this differentiation, many Jigsaw Pieces (lessons) suggest creative learning activities that allow children to choose the media with which they work and give them scope to work to their full potential. If any changes are implemented nationally as a result of the Rochford Review, Jigsaw will make the necessary amendments and offer this free update to all its schools.

Safeguarding

Teachers need to be aware that sometimes disclosures may be made during Jigsaw lessons; in which case, safeguarding procedures must be followed immediately. Sometimes it is clear that certain children may need time to talk one-to-one after the lesson closes. It is important to allow the time and appropriate staffing for this to happen. If disclosures occur, the school's child protection and safeguarding policy is followed.

Assessment

Teachers will be eager to ensure children are making progress with their learning throughout their Jigsaw experience. Therefore, each Puzzle (unit of work) has a built-in assessment task, usually in Lesson (Piece) 6. This task is the formal opportunity for teacher assessment, but also offers children the chance to assess their own learning and have a conversation with the teacher about their two opinions.

Working towards

Meeting Expectations

Greater Depth

Reporting to Parents/Carers

Each Puzzle's assessment tasks, attainment and children's Jigsaw Journals assist the teacher in reporting meaningful learning progress to parents/carers. The descriptors can be used as a starting point when considering what to write on children's reports.

The Attainment Descriptors

Please be aware that these attainment descriptors are specific to Jigsaw and to year groups. They are designed to give guidance when considering each child's learning journey. They are *not* nationally-recognised. There are no national level descriptors for PSHE.

The Jigsaw philosophy is that children are praised and their achievements celebrated in every Piece (lesson). It demands a positive relationship between the teacher and the children which, in itself, values and celebrates each individual. Appropriate time is allocated for this process.

Monitoring and evaluation

The PSHE co-ordinator will monitor delivery of the programme through observation and discussion with teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision.

Evaluation of the programme's effectiveness will be conducted on the basis of:

- Pupil and teacher evaluation of the content and learning processes
- Staff meetings to review and share experience

The Learning Environment

Establishing a safe, open and positive learning environment based on trusting relationships between all members of the class, adults and children alike, is vital. To enable this, it is important that 'ground rules' are agreed and owned at the beginning of the year and are reinforced in every lesson. These include the aspects below:

- We take turns to speak
- We use kind and positive words
- We listen to each other
- We have the right to pass
- We only use names when giving compliments or when being positive
- We respect each other's privacy (confidentiality)

Teaching Sensitive and Controversial Issues

Sensitive and controversial issues are certain to arise in learning from real-life experience. Teachers will be prepared to handle personal issues arising from the work, to deal sensitively with, and to follow up appropriately, disclosures made in a group or individual setting. Issues that we address that are likely to be sensitive and controversial because they have a political, social or personal impact or deal with values and beliefs include: family lifestyles and values, physical and medical issues, financial issues, bullying and bereavement.

Teachers will take all reasonable, practical steps to ensure that, where political or controversial issues are brought to pupils' attention, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Teachers will adopt strategies that seek to avoid bias on their part and will teach pupils how to recognise bias and evaluate evidence. Teachers will seek to establish a classroom climate in which all pupils are free from any fear of expressing reasonable points of view that contradict those held either by their class teachers or their peers.

Answering Difficult Questions and Sensitive Issues

Staff members are aware that views around RSHE-related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all RSHE issues are taught without bias using Jigsaw. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect that others have the right to a different opinion.

Both formal and informal RSHE arising from pupils' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil(s) concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the Child Protection Coordinator if they are concerned.

Our school believes that RSHE should meet the needs of all pupils, answer appropriate questions and offer support. In Jigsaw Pieces (lessons) that cover RSE provision, this should be regardless of their developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation and gender diversity, answer appropriate questions and offer support. LGBT+ bullying is dealt with strongly yet sensitively.

Involving parents and carers

The school believes that it is important to have the support of parents, carers and the wider community for the Jigsaw PSHE programme.

Links to other policies and curriculum areas

We recognise the clear link between Jigsaw PSHE and the following policies and staff are aware of the need to refer to these policies when appropriate.

- Science curriculum
- Curriculum Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Training and support for staff

All staff benefit from Jigsaw PSHE training in order to enhance their PSHE delivery skills. Opportunities are provided for staff to identify individual training needs on a yearly basis and relevant support is provided. In addition to this, support for teaching and understanding PSHE issues is incorporated in our staff INSET programme.

Dissemination

Copies are available from the school office on request from parents/carers.

Confidentiality and Child Protection/Safeguarding Issues

As a general rule a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he talks to the named child protection co-ordinator who takes action as laid down in the Child Protection Policy. All staff members are familiar with the policy and know the identity of the member of staff with responsibility for Safeguarding. The child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process.