



Apple Tree Farm Services CIC

Relationship, Sex and Health Education Policy



Introduction

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 includes legislation on relationships, health, and sex education in schools. This policy sets out how Apple Tree Farm meets the subsequent statutory requirements of the Department for Education, 'Relationships, Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education' June 2019. We believe Relationships Education, Sex Education and Health Education (referred to in this policy as RSHE) are complementary in-school subjects that help children and young people to understand the emotional, physical, and social aspects of growing up and relationships. RSHE involves lifelong learning, starting early in childhood and continuing throughout life and so is taught throughout the school, in a way that reflects the developmental level of the learner. We view the partnership of home, school and supporting alternative provision as vital in providing our pupils with the knowledge to make safe informed decisions about their lives.

Aims and Objectives

This RSHE policy aims to encourage pupils to develop knowledge, skills and understanding to empower them to make healthy and safe lifestyle choices both now and in the future. Apple Tree Farm works to promote the emotional well-being of all our students.

Our main objectives are as follows:

- We aim to teach trust and mutual respect for everyone. We believe that good relations, good manners, and a secure learning environment ensure that pupils can benefit from.
- We aim to help and support children and young people in their physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and moral development. Also, to provide knowledge and understanding about all relationships (including loving relationships, the nature of healthy sexual relationships and the process of human reproduction, again relevant to the age of the learner).
- Apple Tree Farm is an inclusive provision, and this is reflected in our conversations. We aim to promote positive relationships and respect the difference and diversity in people.
- For children and young people to acquire attitudes that prepare them to view their own relationships and physical changes in a healthy and responsible manner.
- We aim to provide learning experiences that help pupils develop their own moral values, which may include reflecting on a variety of different issues, beliefs, and viewpoints. In addition, to have the skills, language and confidence required to behave according to their values in new situations.
- To provide information that is accurate, honest, and easy to understand at the children and young people's level of development (including the law as it relates to topics such as consent, marriage and civil partnership, equality, child protection and safeguarding).

RSHE at Apple Tree Farm is also compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and supports our fulfilment of the Public Sector Equality Duty, which requires settings to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act.



- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Teaching and Learning

RSHE teaching remains the responsibility of Devon County Council and schools.

Apple Tree Farm aims to support the teaching of RSHE through building on previous knowledge and understanding delivered by the schools or commissioning bodies. Apple Tree Farm believes in creating an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, and that this can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. Therefore, farm staff can and will consult with the designated safeguarding lead and in her absence one of her deputies.

The Curriculum

The delivery of RSHE curriculum remains the responsibility of the local authority and/or the school/setting responsible for the placement of the child at Apple Tree Farm.

Monitoring and evaluation of RSHE

The monitoring and evaluation of RSHE remains the responsibility of the local authority and/or the school/setting responsible for the placement of the child at Apple Tree Farm.

Parental Engagement

Whilst Apple Tree Farm does not directly deliver RSHE content, we accept that discussions may take place when initiated by children who have questions. Staff will aim to answer these questions in line with the aims and objectives of this policy. We would encourage any parent, who may be concerned, to come in and discuss this with us so that we can reassure them.

Policy leadership and approval

RSHE policy, delivery and approval remains the responsibility of the local authority and/or the school/setting responsible for the placement of the child at Apple Tree Farm.

EOTAS

Where a child or young person is placed at Apple Tree Farm as part of an EOTAS package, the delivery of RSHE will be the responsibility of the alternative provider who holds most hours in the EOTAS contract. It is acceptable for Apple Tree Farm and other alternative providers involved in service delivery to a young person to consult and agree on a suitable delivery system that covers all basis.

RSHE and Safeguarding

Effective RSHE is an important part of safeguarding children as it equips them with the facts and skills to negotiate all forms of relationships and to recognise what is positive in a relationship and what is not.

It should:

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- Promote safe, equal, caring and enjoyable relationships and discuss real-life issues appropriate to the age and stage of the pupils, including friendships, families, consent, relationship abuse, sexual exploitation and safe relationships online.
- Is based on reliable sources of information, including about the law and legal rights, and distinguishes between fact and opinion.
- Includes learning about how to get help and treatment from sources such as the school nurse and other health and advice services, including reliable information online.
- Meets the needs of pupils with their diverse experiences, including those with special educational needs and disabilities.
- Works in partnership with parents, informing them about what their children will be learning and about how they can contribute at home.

Legislation

The Department for Education introduced compulsory Relationships Education for primary pupils and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) for secondary pupils from September 2020.

Documents that inform the school's RSHE policy include:

- Education Act (1996)
- Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010),
- Supplementary Guidance SRE for the 21st century (2014)
- Keeping children safe in education –Statutory safeguarding guidance (2019)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

Our RSHE policy complements the following policies:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Missing Child Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Substance Misuse Police
- Safeguarding and Child Protection

This policy was last reviewed on: 14/05/2026 and will be reviewed *every three years* unless it is deemed necessary to do so sooner.

Signed: Farm Manager
Date: 14/05/2026