SKYLARK FEDERATION

Skylark Federation: Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Policy

May 2026

1. Policy Development and Statutory Context

This policy applies to **Appleshaw St Peter's** and **Kimpton, Thruxton & Fyfield CE Primary Schools**. It has been updated to meet the **July 2025 Statutory Guidance** for Relationships and Health Education, which all schools must implement by **September 2026**. This policy is informed by the **Diocese of Winchester and Portsmouth** Joint Board of Education and complies with the **Equality Act 2010**.

2. Christian Vision and Values

Our curriculum is rooted in our Federation vision: **"Through living our Christian values of Faith, Hope and Love we aspire to provide exceptional educational foundations enabling our students to flourish"**. We aim to provide a **"harm prevention approach"** and a positive life-course intervention, helping pupils experience **"life in all its fullness"** (John 10:10). We adopt the **"Pastoral Principles for Living Well Together,"** which guide us to:

- Acknowledge prejudice and address ignorance.
- Cast out fear and pay attention to power.

3. Curriculum Framework: Kapow Primary

The Skylark Federation uses the **Kapow Primary RSE & PSHE scheme**. This curriculum is designed as a **spiral curriculum**, where key areas are revisited annually with increasing depth and maturity.

The scheme is underpinned by **four consistent strands**:

- **Self-regulation:** Managing emotions and behaviour.
- **Managing self:** Taking responsibility for personal health and choices.
- **Building relationships:** Forming positive, respectful connections.
- **Critical thinking:** Thinking independently and questioning information, especially online.

4. Phase Key Questions and Themes

We utilise a **question-based approach** across the following key areas: *My healthy self, Connecting with others, The online world, Citizenship, Health protection, Staying safe,* and *Growing up*.

Phase	Core Theme & Sample Key Questions	Updated Statutory Focus (2025/26)

EYFS	*My feelings; Special relationships; My family and friends.*	Building foundations for emotional awareness and sharing.
Year 1	*How can we look after our feelings? How do we spend time online?*	**Loneliness:** Normalising it; **Digital:** Awareness of being online.
Year 2	*How can I build safe relationships? How can we respect our bodies?*	**Privacy:** Correct body part names; **Dental:** Hygiene routines.
Year 3	*What helps us feel safe and included? How should we treat each other online?*	**Immunisation:** How vaccines work; **Safety:** First aid for common injuries.
Year 4	*How can I evaluate what I see online? How will my body/emotions change?*	**Digital:** Reliable sources; **Personal Safety:** Road, rail, and water hazards.
Year 5	*How am I influenced by what I see online? How can I manage puberty?*	**Digital:** Scams and influencers; **Health:** Managing periods and boundaries.
Year 6	*How do my choices shape my future? What does it mean to stand up for others?*	**Online Safety:** AI deepfakes/influencers; **Health:** Risks of vaping/nicotine.

5. Pedagogy and Oracy

A key feature of our curriculum is **Oracy**. We provide pupils with opportunities for **"exploratory talk"** to think aloud, question, and collaboratively build ideas. Pupils develop these skills through role-play, group discussions, and explaining choices using key vocabulary.

6. Parental Transparency and Openness

We maintain a policy of **full transparency** with parents.

- **Access to Materials:** Parents are entitled to **view all curriculum materials** used to teach RSHE on request.
- **Method of Sharing:** While copyright law affects *how* materials are shared, it will not be used to refuse a request to view them.
- **External Providers:** We will not enter contractual restrictions that prevent us from sharing a visitor's materials with parents.
- **Notification:** We will proactively engage parents during policy reviews and notify them of any **"shifts away"** from the published curriculum.

7. Faith, Equality, and Gender

- **Marriage:** We teach that marriage and civil partnerships represent a formal and legally recognised commitment intended to be lifelong.
- **Biological Sex and Gender:** We follow a **factual approach** regarding biological sex and gender reassignment. We do **not teach as fact** contested views.
- **Diversity:** Same-sex relationships and parenting are acknowledged as a fact of life. LGBTQ+ content is **fully integrated** into the program rather than delivered as a standalone unit.
- **Bullying:** We use the **"Flourishing for All" (April 2025)** guidance to tackle homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic bullying.

8. Right of Withdrawal

- **No Right of Withdrawal:** Parents cannot withdraw children from **Relationships Education**, **Health Education**, or the **National Science Curriculum** (including puberty and reproduction).
- **Year 6 Sex Education:** Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the **non-statutory Year 6 unit** (conception and birth). This request will be **automatically granted** by the Headteacher in primary schools.

9. Assessment and Inclusion

- **Ipsative Assessment:** We focus on the progress each pupil makes from their individual starting point.
- **SEND:** We ensure teaching is accessible for pupils with **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**, recognising they may be more vulnerable to abuse or bullying.
- **Adaptive Curriculum:** We distinguish between the scheduled curriculum and **context-driven changes** adapting the taught content to reflect the reality of the school community.