



Al Ain English Speaking School

RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

RATIONALE

This policy outlines how Relationships and Education (RE) is taught within the school in a way that is age-appropriate, culturally sensitive, inclusive and respectful, and aligned with UK statutory guidance and British Schools Overseas (BSO) inspection expectations, while remaining appropriate to the context of the United Arab Emirates.

The school is committed to supporting students' personal development, wellbeing and safety by helping them to build positive relationships and have greater understanding of their physical and emotional development.

AIMS OF RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

Through Relationships Education, the school aims to:

- Support students to develop positive, respectful and healthy relationships
- Promote self-respect, empathy and understanding of others
- Teach students how to keep themselves safe, including online safety
- Help students understand emotions, friendships and family life
- Prepare students for the changes associated with growing up in an age-appropriate way

CURRICULUM

RE (Relationships Education) is taught within the AAESS PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) curriculum and is delivered across all key stages.

Relationships Education

Students are taught:

- How to form and maintain positive friendships
- How to treat others with kindness and respect
- The importance of honesty and trust

- How to resolve conflict calmly
- That families can look different and are based on care and support
- How to recognise unhealthy behaviour and seek help
- Online safety, including respectful online communication

Health and Wellbeing

Students are taught:

- The importance of personal hygiene
- How to keep physically and mentally healthy
- The importance of sleep, nutrition and exercise
- How to recognise and talk about feelings
- The importance of personal responsibility and wellbeing
- How to manage peer pressure and make informed choices

Growing and Changing

In later primary years, students may be taught:

- Basic information about physical and emotional changes
- How to manage these changes positively
- The importance of asking trusted adults for support

All content is taught using correct but sensitive language and is carefully matched to students' age and maturity.

DELIVERY

- RE is taught as part of the PSHE curriculum
- Lessons are planned and sequenced progressively
- Teaching is inclusive and respectful
- Ground rules are established to ensure a safe learning environment
- Staff use age and culturally appropriate language and resources

Students are encouraged to ask questions, which are answered honestly and sensitively within the school's agreed framework.

CULTURAL SENSITIVITY AND RESPECT

The school ensures that:

- Teaching is respectful of UAE culture and values
- Content is appropriate for an international school context
- Staff handle topics sensitively and professionally
- Parents are informed about any culturally sensitive curriculum content

PARENTS AND CARERS

The school values partnership with parents and carers and therefore aims to respond to questions or concerns respectfully and provide opportunities for parents to discuss content if required.

Parents may request further clarification about the curriculum through the school leadership team.

SAFEGUARDING

RE supports safeguarding by:

- Teaching students how to keep themselves safe
- Helping students identify trusted adults
- Encouraging students to speak out if they feel worried or unsafe

Any safeguarding concerns raised during RE lessons are managed in line with the school's safeguarding policy.

STAFF TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Staff delivering RE:

- Receive appropriate training
- Are supported with clear guidance and resources
- Are aware of safeguarding procedures
- Are aware of cultural compliance

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The effectiveness of RE is monitored through:

- Curriculum and planning reviews
- Student voice and feedback
- Staff confidence and training evaluations
- Safeguarding monitoring

Evidence of RE provision is maintained to support BSO inspection requirements, including curriculum maps, lesson planning, staff training records and student outcomes.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy is reviewed regularly to ensure continued compliance with guidance and appropriateness for the school community