



Sex Education in Jigsaw 11-16 and the right to withdraw students (Oct 2023).

Jigsaw guarantees that its PSHE Programmes for primary and secondary meet the statutory requirements for Relationships Education and Health Education at Primary and RSE and Health Education at secondary.

This work sits within the Jigsaw whole-school approach to PSHE which has an emphasis on emotional literacy and mental health.

DfE guidance page 17, para.45 states:

‘Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE.’

This means schools need to define ‘Sex Education’, identify which of the DfE statutory expectations relate to this, and identify which lessons this content appears in.

If a parent’s request to withdraw their child is granted, teachers then know which lessons these students will NOT be allowed to attend.

Jigsaw PSHE has worked through this process. This is difficult as we would prefer not to separate Relationships Education and Sex Education as we aim to deliver holistic learning, and we would prefer all students to receive all of the RSHE programme.

However, the grid below shows one model that may be workable, and so may help secondary schools identify where Jigsaw PSHE teaches Sex Education if the following definition is used:

Sex Education: ‘Human reproduction and sexual behaviour’

Including:

- How human reproduction can happen (e.g. sexual intercourse, IVF, surrogacy)
- Anatomy and biology (when linked to sexual activity)
- Reproductive health, choices, rights and responsibilities
- Sexual behaviour and sexual health, risks, reasons, rights and responsibilities)

If this is accepted as the definition, Jigsaw identifies the **DfE statutory expectations highlighted below** as core to this definition, and thereby is able (below) to identify the Jigsaw Puzzles (units) and lessons in each year group that include this content, i.e. the lessons ‘withdrawn’ students may need to miss. These are denoted in the year group columns of the grid as e.g. CM3 meaning Changing Me Puzzle, Lesson 3.

Jigsaw has coded the DfE expectations for ease of use by adding e.g. FAMa to denote Families section expectation a.

On the portal we have included a list of lessons that schools may wish to review and consider whether they deem these as Sex Education or not.

However, schools do need to make their own decisions regarding their definition of ‘Sex Education’ and identify which lessons serve this content, and share this with parents.

You are welcome to use this editable grid to work this through as you see fit.

By the end of secondary pupils should know:		Coverage				
Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) DfE expectations (2019)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Families (FAM)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
FAMa	that there are different types of committed, stable relationships.					
B	how these relationships might contribute to human happiness and their importance for bringing up children.					
C	what marriage is, including their legal status e.g. that marriage carries legal rights and protections not available to couples who are cohabiting or who have married, for example, in an unregistered religious ceremony.					
D	why marriage is an important relationship choice for many couples and why it must be freely entered into.					
E	the characteristics and legal status of other types of long-term relationships.					
F	the roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children, including the characteristics of successful parenting.					
G	how to: determine whether other children, adults or sources of information are trustworthy: judge when a family, friend, intimate or other relationship is unsafe (and to recognise this in others’ relationships); and, how to seek help or advice, including reporting concerns about others, if needed.					
Respectful relationships including friendships (RR)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11

RRa	the characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship.					
B	practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.					
C	how stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice).					
D	that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs					
E	about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help.					
F	that some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control.					
G	what constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable.					
H	the legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality (particularly with reference to the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010) and that everyone is unique and equal.					
Online and media (OM)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
OMa	their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online.					
B	about online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online.					
C	not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them.					
D	what to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online.					
E	the impact of viewing harmful content.					

F	that specifically sexually explicit material e.g. pornography presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners.					
G	that sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail.					
H	how information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online.					
Being Safe (BS)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
BSa	the concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based violence and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships.					
B	how people can actively communicate and recognise consent from others, including sexual consent, and how and when consent can be withdrawn (in all contexts, including online).					
Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health (ISR)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
ISRa	how to recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy one-to-one intimate relationships, which include mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex and friendship.					
B	that all aspects of health can be affected by choices they make in sex and relationships, positively or negatively, e.g. physical, emotional, mental, sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing.					
C	the facts about reproductive health, including fertility and the potential impact of lifestyle on fertility for men and women.					
D	that there are a range of strategies for identifying and managing sexual pressure, including understanding peer pressure, resisting pressure and not pressurising others.					
E	that they have a choice to delay sex or to enjoy intimacy without sex.					
F	the facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available.					
G	the facts around pregnancy including miscarriage.					

H	that there are choices in relation to pregnancy (with medically and legally accurate, impartial information on all options, including keeping the baby, adoption, abortion and where to get further help).					
i	how the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDs, are transmitted, how risk can be reduced through safer sex (including through condom use) and the importance of and facts about testing.					
j	about the prevalence of some STIs, the impact they can have on those who contract them and key facts about treatment.					
k	how the use of alcohol and drugs can lead to risky sexual behaviour.					
l	how to get further advice, including how and where to access confidential sexual and reproductive health advice and treatment.					

By the end of secondary pupils should know: Physical health and mental wellbeing		Coverage				
Mental wellbeing (MW)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
MWa	how to talk about their emotions accurately and sensitively, using appropriate vocabulary.					
b	that happiness is linked to being connected to others.					
c	how to recognise the early signs of mental wellbeing concerns.					
d	common types of mental ill health (e.g. anxiety and depression).					
e	how to critically evaluate when something they do or are involved in has a positive or negative effect on their own or others' mental health.					
f	the benefits and importance of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation and voluntary and service-based activities on mental wellbeing and happiness.					
Internet safety and harms (IS)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
ISa	the similarities and differences between the online world and the physical world, including: the impact of unhealthy or obsessive comparison with others online (including through setting unrealistic expectations for body image, how people may curate a specific image of their life online, over-reliance on online relationships including social media, the risks related to online gambling including the accumulation of debt, how advertising and information is targeted at them and how to be a discerning consumer of information online.					
b	how to identify harmful behaviours online (including bullying, abuse or harassment) and how to report, or find support, if they have been affected by those behaviours.					
Physical health and fitness (PH)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11

PHa	the positive associations between physical activity and promotion of mental wellbeing, including as an approach to combat stress.					
b	the characteristics and evidence of what constitutes a healthy lifestyle, maintaining a healthy weight, including the links between an inactive lifestyle and ill health, including cancer and cardiovascular ill-health.					
c	about the science relating to blood, organ and stem cell donation.					
Healthy eating (HE)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
HEa	how to maintain healthy eating and the links between a poor diet and health risks, including tooth decay and cancer.					
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco (DAT)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
DATa	the facts about legal and illegal drugs and their associated risks, including the link between drug use, and the associated risks, including the link to serious mental health conditions.					
b	the law relating to the supply and possession of illegal substances.					
c	the physical and psychological risks associated with alcohol consumption and what constitutes low risk alcohol consumption in adulthood.					
d	the physical and psychological consequences of addiction, including alcohol dependency.					
e	awareness of the dangers of drugs which are prescribed but still present serious health risks.					
f	the facts about the harms from smoking tobacco (particularly the link to lung cancer), the benefits of quitting and how to access support to do so.					
Health and prevention (HP)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
HPa	about personal hygiene, germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread, treatment and prevention of infection, and about antibiotics.					
b	about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including healthy eating and regular check-ups at the dentist.					

c	(late secondary) the benefits of regular self-examination and screening.					
d	the facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination.					
e	the importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and how a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn.					
Basic first aid (BFA)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
BFAa	basic treatment for common injuries.					
b	life-saving skills, including how to administer CPR.					
c	the purpose of defibrillators and when one might be needed.					
Changing adolescent body (CAB)		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
CABa	key facts about puberty, the changing adolescent body and menstrual wellbeing.					
b	the main changes which take place in males and females, and the implications for emotional and physical health.					