



RSHE-Questions and Answers.

We would like to thank all of our parents and carers who took part in our Parent meeting in school, online and to those who took the time to complete our questionnaire. As a school we value all of your thoughts and concerns and we endeavour to work closely with you to ensure that the children at New City get the very best education possible.

Our aims here at New City are to enable all young people to become the following:

- Success learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve.
- Confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives.
- Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

We have put together your FAQ's with regard RSHE and if you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact the school by email at info@newcity.boleyntrust.org

Question 1: Will you be teaching RSHE as a specific lesson?

RSHE will be incorporated into our existing PSHE curriculum. We already teach the majority of the new statutory elements; however, we are making them more explicit and thus 'up-levelling' our curriculum. Many aspects of RSHE are also covered in other subject areas, such as Science (puberty and reproduction in animals), and in RE (e.g. different religions and views on marriage). There will not be discrete, stand-alone lessons on LGBTQ+ relationships, or on any other relationships. Instead, we will be using more inclusive languages and images (e.g. of different family units) to embed tolerance of and respect for all people.

Question 2: Will you be teaching the children about same sex relationships?

We are not be advocating LGBT+ relationships over any other relationship. However, we will be talking about LGBT+ relationships and families in an age-appropriate way in RSHE. All people and loving families, including those who are LGBT+, have much to give society. Schools have a duty to present modern British society and educate children and young people about diversity, inclusion, and equality for all groups, including faith groups, as mentioned in the Equality Act 2010. Pupil- and student-sensitive RSHE can also be used to make sure other children and young people from minority groups not mentioned in the 2010 Act are included and valued too; children such as looked after children

Question 3: How can I teach my children about same sex relationships?

In school, we teach children that the underpinning of any relationship is love, security and respect. This also applies to same-sex relationships. All we expect children to know at primary age is that individuals of the same-sex can form loving and respectful relationships. If you would like any

additional information on how you can discuss these subjects with your pupils, please contact us at info@newcity.boleyntrust.org, or speak to your child's class teacher. We can advise you and provide resources if you need them.

Question 4: How will you be teaching sex education?

As part of RSHE in some primary schools and as part of science in all secondary schools, children and young people are taught about human reproduction, but schools are not teaching or encouraging children or young people to have sex. At New City, we have chosen not to deliver sex education, however we are teaching pupils about their individual rights, about consent and about types of acceptable/unacceptable contact between people. We are providing our pupils with the foundational skills and knowledge to make intelligent healthy decisions when they do decide to have sex, in line with their own morality, beliefs and their aspirations for their future. We are equipping them to have the confidence to make choices based on their own values, and to say no to sex, or yes, or not now, maybe in the future. For some that may not be until they are married or much later in their life.

Question 5: When you discuss this will you separate boys and girls?

The lessons will be taught separately to boys and girls, however both groups will be given the same information (pertaining to both sexes). This is to avoid children discussing and comparing the content of their lessons in the playground, and potentially spreading misinformation.

Question 6: Are you going to be discussing contraception?

No, we are not teaching about contraception during our science lessons

Question 7: What happens if a child is off sick that day?

At New City we have a dedicated Family support team who will be able to work closely with children who have been absent. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we have also adapted our teaching to allow for remote learning, and resources can be provided for the children to access the learning at home. In addition to this Learning mentors are available throughout the day to ensure that children can raise any questions, worries or concerns that they might have.

Question 8: Will you be teaching the children names of body parts?

We have thought carefully about what we teach children and young people, making sure it is age appropriate. Knowing the context of our pupils' lives, what they see and hear around them, as well as keeping them safe, are big drivers for our schools. Safeguarding children and young people is a very important element of RSHE. An example of how schools can help children express themselves clearly is the use of accepted shared language, the words 'vulva' and 'penis' as external organs do not lead to a child understanding a sexual act, but does give them an easily understood, common vocabulary should they need to explain something in everyday life or something that has happened to them that they did not like. Parents/carers are of course able to use family names for various parts of their body at home, but in schools 'proper' or scientific words will be used.

Question 9: Are you considering pupil's religious beliefs when teaching RSHE?

We are mindful of all their pupils' backgrounds when teaching RSHE, whatever that may be. We are members of a Newham-wide RSHE group, and because of our commitment to respecting differing faith groups, as well as other backgrounds our pupils may have, have employed, as an RSHE advisor, someone who has completed an extensive research study, using the voices of young people to explore what constitutes good quality, faith- and student-sensitive RSHE. This research, carried out at UCL Institute of Education, fits well with the borough's commitment to faith-sensitive and student-sensitive RSHE and informs the borough's plans and training concerning RSHE. It is important that whilst faith is respected and also talked about in RSHE, so are other belief systems, and RSHE should be sensitive to pupils or students from all differing backgrounds.

How much are children taught about LGBTQ+ relationships?

During our RE and PSHE lessons we explore different types of relationships with children including single sex relationships. We teach children to be respectful of the different relationships in our society.

Will there be talks with external services, such as nurses or police?

As part of the PSHE curriculum we do liaise with external services to cover issues of knife crime, staying safe when crossing the roads etc. These workshops are age appropriate for our children.

