

Engaging with parents and carers is a crucial step in developing an effective programme of Relationships and Sex Education.

Government guidance (2019) requires that all schools in England consult with parents about their provision.

Parental engagement can involve several steps. A good starting point is to ensure parents are clear about the facts relating to the new legislation. A second step might focus on gathering parents' views.

Here are some sample parent questions, which could be part of a communication about the changes to RSE. These can be adapted for primary or secondary phase and to suit your school.

A primary version is provided below.





PART 1: BE CLEAR ABOUT THE FACTS

Did you know that a change in the law means that all primary schools are required to teach Relationships Education and Health Education from September 2020?

Yes / No / Not sure

Did you know that all primary schools are recommended to teach sex education, and that parents continue to have the right to request that their child is excused from sex education?

Yes / No / Not sure

Do you have any questions about this?

The Government has produced a pair of factual guides to RSE for parents – one for primary, one for secondary and these are now available in English, Arabic, Somali and Urdu from gov.uk – add a link to these in your parent communication.

PART 2: QUESTIONS AT HOME

Has your child ever talked to you about something they learnt at school to do with growing up, sex or relationships?

Yes / No / Not sure

Add a comment in you wish

Did you know that many children want to learn about growing up from their parents and carers as well as from school?

Yes / No / Not sure

Add a comment in you wish

PART 3: HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

Would you like more information about what our school teaches on relationships, health and sex education?

Yes, I would like to know more about...

No, not at the moment.

Do you want more support to help you talk to your child about relationships, health and sex issues at home?

Yes, I would like support with... No, not at the moment.

PART 4: PLEASE GIVE US SOME FEEDBACK ON HOW WE ARE DOING

Based on what you know about the relationships and sex education currently provided for children at the school how would you rate it overall?

Very good / Good / OK / Bad / Very bad

Can you explain why?

Based on your experience of how we communicate with parents and carers about relationships and sex education, how would you rate our communications with you?

Very good / Good / OK / Bad / Very bad

Can you explain why?

This survey is a first step in our schools' engagement on Relationships Education with you as parents. Your comments will help us understand your views and take these into consideration as we update our curriculum to meet the new requirements.

It is helpful to ascertain that all respondents to the survey are parents of children at your school. Asking parents to provide their name enables follow up.

Respondents should be reassured that the survey data will be treated confidentially.

