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education & training through theatre

Summary of Proposed Guidance on Compulsory Relationships, Sex and Health Education

Loudmouth Education and Training...

Loudmouth Education and Training is a company that supports schools with their relationships, sex and relationships and health education. The company has been delivering quality theatre in education programmes since 1994 and has reached over 600,000 children, young people, professionals and parents. Loudmouth specialises in safeguarding and relationship education and delivers over 750 theatre in education and staff training sessions a year on a range of issues. Loudmouth's work aims to ensure a future where all children and young people are healthy, happy, safe and resilient.

This whitepaper was created by Chris Cowan.



"I'm Chris, one of the founders and directors of Loudmouth. We believe that every child and young person has the right to have healthy, happy and safe relationships. We are passionate about helping schools through updates, tips and free resources alongside our theatre in education and training work."

Chris Cowan chris@loudmouth.co.uk



At last...

...after a few false starts, we are finally going to see education on relationships, sex and health become compulsory in our schools.

The draft guidance was published in July 2018 with a consultation process running until the 7th November 2018.

The consultation document has a lot of information and so to help you save some time and get a handle on the main points we have pulled out 20 of the key points for you.

The full document can also be accessed by clicking [here](#).

For more information or any questions contact us on 0121 446 4880.

1. In July 2018, the Department of Education produced their draft guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education. It contains the proposed legal duties that schools must comply with from September 2020.

2. From September 2020 Relationships Education will be compulsory in all primary schools in England and Relationships and Sex education (RSE) in all secondary schools. This means ALL schools; maintained, non-maintained or independent including all academies and free schools, maintained and non-maintained special schools and alternative provision. Health Education will not be compulsory in independent schools however PSHE will be. The statutory requirements do not apply to sixth form colleges, 16-19 academies or FE college although they are encouraged to offer RSE and Health Education.

3. The overall aim is to have compulsory subject content that supports children and young people to know how to stay safe and healthy and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way. It is to support the schools wider work to help foster pupil wellbeing and develop resilience and virtues that support them to be happy, successful and production members of society. Virtues the curriculum is designed to develop are kindness, generosity, self-sacrifice and honesty.

4. The primary school focus is on healthy, respectful relationships focusing on family and relationships both on and offline and the basics of how to be healthy. In secondary schools this is built on by further developing the pupils' understanding of health and more focus on risk areas such as drugs and alcohol as well as introducing knowledge about intimate relationships and sex. Teaching about mental health runs through all the subjects.

5. There is a big emphasis on schools recognising that many children and young people are living a substantial proportion of their life online and how this may affect what and how we teach.

6. Parents/carers have the right to request to withdraw pupils from sex education but not relationships education.
7. Schools will be told what they need to teach but given the flexibility to shape their curriculum to meet their pupils needs by ensuring it is age-appropriate and taught sensitively and inclusively.
8. The topics can be taught through a timetabled PSHE programme or another different curricular model of delivery.
9. All schools must have a written policy for Relationships Education and RSE that has been written and reviewed in consultation with parents.
10. The religious background of all pupils must be taken into account when planning teaching, complying with the Equality Act (2010).

11. In all schools teaching should reflect the law as it applies to relationships.
12. Schools can use resources and external agencies to support their teaching keeping in mind what is appropriate for their pupils. Having external agencies in can enhance delivery when bringing in specialist knowledge and different ways of engaging with children and young people.
13. Schools need to consider when extra support / teaching may be needed for more vulnerable pupils.
14. The teaching must be accessible for all pupils whatever their needs and abilities.
15. Schools are free to determine how they address LGBT specific content however the Dept of Education recommends that it is integral throughout the programmes of study.

16. Schools will be asked to demonstrate effective practice with strong ownership of the subjects by having a dedicated senior leader and teacher with dedicated time to lead the specialist provision.
17. All of the subjects should be set in the context of a wider whole-school approach to supporting pupils to be safe, happy and prepared for life beyond school.
18. At the heart of these subjects is a focus on keeping children safe through preventative education, good safeguarding practices and including DSLs in the planning for the subjects.
19. Schools should have high expectations of the quality of the pupils' work in these subjects. There is no formal assessment however pupils' progress should be assessed.
20. Key aspects of Relationships Education, RSE and Health Education are in scope for Ofsted inspection.

We hope you found this summary useful

Want to know more about Loudmouth?

We can help you with your relationship education with further free support and updates as well as staff training and theatre in education programmes on issues covered in the new guidance. We also provide over 100 simple to use lesson plans and advice to help you plan or freshen up your relationships, RSE and health education. Call us on 0121 446 4880 and visit our website www.loudmouth.co.uk for more information.