

From September 2020, the law requires primary schools to consult on their Relationships Education policy.

The broad process for engagement should involve:

- The school providing clear information to all parents, in an accessible way, on their proposed programme and policy
- Parents being given reasonable time to consider this information
- The school providing reasonable opportunities for parents to feed in their views
- The school giving consideration to those views from parents.

The ultimate aims of consultation with families are:

- To ensure that everyone involved understands what is being taught
- To ensure parents know when and how it will be taught
- To help develop a shared set of values between parents and schools on these subjects
- To give parents a voice and the knowledge that their views are being listened to
- To dispel myths about the subjects
- To create opportunities to build stronger relationships with parents.

Crucially with these subjects, it can help parents to understand how they can support what their child is learning in school with their own teaching at home. Relationships Education is best delivered with cooperation and support from parents. Engagement works best when everyone involved enters into it with an open mind.

Useful links:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-health-education-guides-forschools (resources in multiple languages)

https://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/resources/frequently-asked-questions FAQ on SRE

https://www.islingtoncs.org/sites/default/files/2020%20FAQs%20for%20PRIMARY%20parents.pdf FAQ for primary parents