



PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) Policy (including Relationships and Health Education)

Name of school:	Burbage Junior School
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Member of staff responsible:	Flo Nattrass
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Chair of Governors	Rebecca Jones
Headteacher	Zoe Driver

This policy aims to meet and contribute to our School Vision and Values:



Context

All schools must provide a curriculum that is broadly based, balanced and meets the needs of all pupils. Under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010, a PSHE curriculum:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

PSHE

At Burbage Junior School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity.

The Jigsaw Programme offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area.

This also supports the "Personal Development" and "Behaviour and Attitude" aspects required under the Ofsted Inspection Framework, as well as significantly contributing to the school's Safeguarding and Equality Duties, the Government's British Values agenda and the SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural) development opportunities provided for our children.

Statutory Relationships and Health Education

"The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education [and Health Education] compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education.

DfE Guidance p.8

"In primary schools, we want the subjects to put in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online. This will sit alongside the essential understanding of how to be healthy."

"These subjects represent a huge opportunity to help our children and young people develop. The knowledge and attributes gained will support their own, and others' wellbeing and attainment and help young people to become successful and happy adults who make a meaningful contribution to society."

Here, at Burbage Junior School we value PSHE as one way to support children's development as human beings, to enable them to understand and respect who they are, to empower them with a voice and to equip them for life and learning.

We include the statutory Relationships and Health Education within our whole-school PSHE Programme.

To ensure progression, we use Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, as our chosen teaching and learning programme and tailor it to our children's needs. The mapping document (Appendix 1) shows exactly how Jigsaw, and therefore our school, meets the statutory Relationships and Health Education requirements.

This programme's complimentary update policy ensures we are always using the most up to date teaching materials and that our teachers are well-supported.

The Jigsaw scheme, and therefore our PSHE policy, is informed by existing DfE guidance:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (statutory guidance)
- Respectful School Communities: Self Review and Signposting Tool (a tool to support a whole school approach that promotes respect and discipline)
- Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (advice for schools, including advice for appropriate behaviour between pupils)
- Equality Act 2010 and schools
- SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years (statutory guidance)
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools (advice for schools)
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying (advice for schools, including advice on cyberbullying)
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools (advice for schools)
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission Advice and Guidance (provides advice on avoiding discrimination in a variety of educational contexts)
- Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (guidance for maintained schools on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC))

It is also informed by our own school policies:

- Child Protection Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Objectives
- British Values Policy
- SEND Policy
- Online Safety Policy

The Jigsaw Programme is aligned to the PSHE Association Programmes of Study for PSHE.

What do we teach when and who teaches it?

Whole-school approach

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase including statutory Relationships and Health Education. The table below gives the learning theme of each of the six puzzles (units) and these are taught across the school; the learning deepens and broadens every year.

Term	Puzzle (Unit)	Content
Autumn 1:	Being Me in My World	Includes understanding my own identity and how I fit well in the class, school and global community. Jigsaw Charter established.
Autumn 2:	Celebrating Difference	Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and understanding.
Spring 1:	Dreams and Goals	Includes goal-setting, aspirations, who I want to become and what would I like to do for work and to contribute to society.
Spring 2:	Healthy Me	Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices, sleep, nutrition, rest and exercise.
Summer 1:	Relationships	Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills, bereavement and loss.
Summer 2:	Changing Me	Includes Relationships and Sex Education in the context of coping positively with change.

At Burbage Junior School we allocate 45mins – one hour to PSHE each week in order to teach the PSHE knowledge and skills in a developmental and age-appropriate way.

These explicit lessons are reinforced and enhanced in many ways:

Assemblies and collective worship, our praise and reward system, our School Values, through relationships: child to child, adult to child and adult to adult across the school. We aim to ‘live’ what is learnt and apply it to everyday situations in the school community.

Relationships Education

What does the DfE statutory guidance on Relationships Education expect children to know by the time they leave primary school?

Relationships Education in primary schools will cover ‘families and people who care for me’, ‘caring friendships’, ‘respectful relationships’, ‘online relationships’, and ‘being safe’.

It is important to explain that whilst the Relationships Puzzle (unit) in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Relationships Education, some of the outcomes are also taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. the Celebrating Difference Puzzle helps children appreciate that there are many types of family composition and that each is important to the children involved. This holistic approach ensures the learning is reinforced through the year and across the curriculum.

Health Education

What does the DfE statutory guidance on Health Education expect children to know by the time they leave primary school?

Health Education in primary schools will cover ‘mental wellbeing’, ‘internet safety and harms’, ‘physical health and fitness’, ‘healthy eating’, ‘drugs, alcohol and tobacco’, ‘health and prevention’, ‘Basic First Aid’, ‘changing adolescent body’.

It is important to explain that whilst the Healthy Me Puzzle (unit) in Jigsaw covers most of the statutory Health Education, some of the outcomes are taught elsewhere in Jigsaw e.g. emotional and mental health is nurtured every lesson through the Calm Me time, social skills are grown every lesson through the Connect Us activity. In addition, our whole-school approach to character education, using the six character muscles, supports the development of the children’s personal and emotional health.

Also, teaching children about puberty is now a statutory requirement which sits within the Health Education part of the DfE guidance within the ‘Changing Adolescent Body’ strand, and in Jigsaw this is taught as part of the Changing Me Puzzle (unit).

Sex Education

All primary schools are required to ‘have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils’.

Sex education ‘should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born’.

At Burbage Junior School, we believe children should understand the facts about human reproduction before they leave primary school and that this should be done in a safe, open and inclusive environment without stigma or embarrassment.

We define Sex Education as provision for improving children’s understanding of their developing bodies and human reproduction.

We intend to deliver this education in a way that ensures the children feel comfortable and confident to explore the learning and ask questions whilst covering all the Jigsaw content. Therefore, some year groups will have their Sex Education lessons in single sex classes. Year 3 will remain as mixed sex classes.

Parents’ right to request their child be excused from Sex Education

Since September 2020, parents are no longer able to withdraw children from Relationships and Health Education, and this includes lessons on puberty, prejudice and discrimination, bullying, difference, diversity and different families.

“Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory Relationships and Sex Education”

DfE Guidance p.17

At Burbage Junior School, puberty is taught as a statutory requirement of Health Education and covered by our Jigsaw PSHE Programme in the ‘Changing Me’ Puzzle (unit). We conclude that sex education refers to Human Reproduction, and therefore inform parents of their right to request

their child be withdrawn from the PSHE lessons that explicitly teach this i.e. the Jigsaw Changing Me Puzzle (unit) e.g.

Year 4, Lesson 2 (Having a baby)

Year 5, Lesson 4 (Conception)

Year 6, Lesson 3 (Conception, birth)

The school will inform parents of this right via Weduc which will include an overview of Jigsaw's Sex Education objectives and vocabulary.

We are more than happy to discuss the content of the curriculum and invite you to contact our office at: office@burbage-jun.leics.sch.uk should you have any queries.

Equality

This policy will inform the school's Single Equality Scheme.

At Burbage Junior School we promote respect for all and value every individual child.

We also respect the right of our children, their families and our staff, to hold different beliefs, religious or otherwise. We understand that sometimes these may be in tension with our approach to some aspects of Relationships, Health and Sex Education and ask that, where parents have any concerns, they contact us to discuss this further.

For further explanation as to how we approach LGBT relationships in the PSHE (RSHE) Programme please see: 'Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ relationships?' (Appendix 2).



Appendix 1: Jigsaw Mapping Document

Relationships Education in Primary schools – DfE Guidance 2019

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults. The references R3/H5 etc can be cross-referenced on the Jigsaw Puzzle Maps to show which lessons throughout Jigsaw contribute to which statutory outcomes. All statutory outcomes are covered in the Jigsaw 3-11 Programme.

	Pupils should know...	How Jigsaw provides the solution
Families and people who care for me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R1 that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability. • R2 the characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives. • R3 that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care. • R4 that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up. • R5 that marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong (Marriage in England and Wales is available to both opposite sex and same sex couples. The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 extended marriage to same sex couples in England and Wales. The ceremony through which a couple get married may be civil or religious). • R6 how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference • Being Me in My World

Caring friendships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R7 how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends • R8 the characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties • R9 that healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others and do not make others feel lonely or excluded • R10 that most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right • R11 how to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help and advice from others, if needed 	
Respectful relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R12 the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs • R13 practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships • R14 the conventions of courtesy and manners • R15 the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness • R16 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 those in positions of authority • R17 about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help • R18 what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive • R19 the importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults 	
Online relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R20 that people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not. • R21 that the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R22 the rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them. • R23 how to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met. • R24 how information and data is shared and used online. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference
Being safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R25 what sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context). • R26 about the concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe. • R27 that each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact. • R28 how to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know. • R29 how to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult. • R30 how to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard, • R31 how to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so. • R32 where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Changing Me • Celebrating Difference

Physical health and mental well-being education in Primary schools – DfE Guidance

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the characteristics of good physical health and mental wellbeing. Teachers should be clear that mental well-being is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.

By the end of primary school:

	Pupils should know	How Jigsaw provides the solution
Mental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H1 that mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.• H2 that there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations.• H3 how to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings.• H4 how to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate.• H5 the benefits of physical exercise, time outdoors, community participation, voluntary and service-based activity on mental well-being and happiness.• H6 simple self-care techniques, including the importance of rest, time spent with friends and family and the benefits of hobbies and interests.• H7 isolation and loneliness can affect children and that it is very important for children to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support.• H8 that bullying (including cyberbullying) has a negative and often lasting impact on mental well-being.• H9 where and how to seek support (including recognising the triggers for seeking support), including whom in school they should speak to if they are worried about their own or someone else's mental well-being or ability to control their emotions (including issues arising online).	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healthy Me• Relationships• Changing Me• Celebrating Difference

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H10 it is common for people to experience mental ill health. For many people who do, the problems can be resolved if the right support is made available, especially if accessed early enough. 	
Internet safety and harms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H11 that for most people the internet is an integral part of life and has many benefits. • H12 about the benefits of rationing time spent online, the risks of excessive time spent on electronic devices and the impact of positive and negative content online on their own and others' mental and physical wellbeing. • H13 how to consider the effect of their online actions on others and knowhow to recognise and display respectful behaviour online and the importance of keeping personal information private. • H14 why social media, some computer games and online gaming, for example, are age restricted. • H15 that the internet can also be a negative place where online abuse, trolling, bullying and harassment can take place, which can have a negative impact on mental health. • H16 how to be a discerning consumer of information online including understanding that information, including that from search engines, is ranked, selected and targeted. • H17 where and how to report concerns and get support with issues online. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Healthy Me
Physical health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H18 the characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle. • H19 the importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example, walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise. • H20 the risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity). • H21 how and when to seek support including which adults to speak to in school if they are worried about their health. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me
Healthy eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H22 what constitutes a healthy diet (including understanding calories and other nutritional content). 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H23 the principles of planning and preparing a range of healthy meals. • H24 the characteristics of a poor diet and risks associated with unhealthy eating (including, for example, obesity and tooth decay) and other behaviours (e.g. the impact of alcohol on diet or health). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H25 the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking 	
Health and prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H26 how to recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss, or unexplained changes to the body. • H27 about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer. • H28 the importance of sufficient good quality sleep for good health and that a lack of sleep can affect weight, mood and ability to learn. • H29 about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and dental flossing, including regular check-ups at the dentist. • H30 about personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of handwashing. • H31 the facts and science relating to immunisation and vaccination 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me
Basic first aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H32 how to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary. • H33 concepts of basic first-aid, for example dealing with common injuries, including head injuries. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Me
Changing adolescent body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H34 key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes. • H35 about menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle. 	<p>All of these aspects are covered in lessons within the Puzzles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing Me • Healthy Me

Appendix 2: Including and valuing ALL children What does Jigsaw

Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, is a curriculum resource for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) written as an easy to use lesson-a-week programme for pupils aged from 3-16. This information leaflet has been written to provide you, as parents and carers, with information about the LGBTQ content of the Jigsaw materials, and how they support your child's school to meet its statutory obligations. If you require further information about Jigsaw, please do approach your school who will be happy to discuss the programme with you.

Why include teaching about LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning) issues in Jigsaw?

1) Ensuring all children feel included

School (and wider society) is a place where all children should feel safe and respected. There are a variety of family situations in British society; some children will have parents who are separated, some may live with a mum and a dad, some may have step-parents, and some may be fostered or adopted. Some may have other family arrangements; and some will have LGBTQ parents or other LGBTQ family members. Any child who lives in a family that is different from the stereotypical household of mum, dad, and children should not be made to feel less accepted, or that their family is any less loving and caring. Teachers would, of course, not set out to do this. However, if the only model of family life that is included in curriculum resources is that of mum, dad and children, what are the 'hidden messages' for children with families who sit outside of this pattern? *Is my family not right or acceptable? Am I not acceptable? Should I not talk about my family? Will people pick on me because my family is 'different'?* Children who feel unaccepted or isolated are more vulnerable to the effects of mental and emotional stigma and potentially less able to apply themselves to learning. The Jigsaw philosophy values every child as a unique human being and does not discriminate but supports them all to achieve the best they can be.

Jigsaw's lessons help children explore why a loving and caring family is important. They have been written so that no child is made to feel inadequate or unaccepted, whatever their family background.

2) Children may already be aware that some people are LGBTQ, or could be using vocabulary such as 'gay' to insult others.

Children will have heard, or will come to hear, some words such as 'gay' or 'transgender'. They may know some LGBTQ people, or have seen them portrayed in movies, television programmes, TV adverts and on social media. As a result, children may have questions or have misunderstandings about what these terms mean. Jigsaw lessons help by giving age-appropriate information, or assisting teachers to clarify children's questions age-appropriately. (See later).

Jigsaw also teaches children that **any word** used as an insult is hurtful and unkind. Within some of these lessons, children may raise homophobic or transphobic words they know or have used themselves. This affords teachers an opportunity to explain that using these words, in this way, is unacceptable. We are teaching children that respect and kindness are important values.

3) Teaching children to accept difference and to foster good relationships with others

Jigsaw does not 'promote' LGBTQ lifestyles. However, it does raise children's awareness that some people in society are LGBTQ. This is not done in isolation. When discussing similarity and difference in Jigsaw lessons, children learn about a whole range of differences, such as difference in physical appearance and personality, likes and dislikes, and that people can have differences of opinion. This helps them to understand that we are all unique human beings. Within the context of these lessons they will also be introduced to different cultures and ethnicities, people with different religions and beliefs, and about people with disability or special needs. They will also be aware that some people are LGBTQ.

When discussing any differences between people, Jigsaw helps teach children to form opinions about others based on whether they are kind, law-abiding, respectful, trustworthy, and responsible people, rather than judging them on appearance or whether a particular aspect of their lifestyle is different to their own. Children also learn about discrimination and prejudice including racism, sexism, and ageism.

The Jigsaw Puzzle (unit), 'Celebrating Difference' helps children to understand that difference does not need to be feared but can be a source of celebration. This supports schools with their obligation to align with the Equality Act 2010.

4) Schools have a duty to uphold the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)

The PSED or the Equality Act, as it is more commonly known, requires schools to eliminate discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relationships. By doing so, the Equality Act encourages schools to meet the diverse needs of children and to improve outcomes for all pupils regardless of background. Part of the Equality 'duty' is to teach children about rights and responsibilities, acceptance, empathy and understanding of others.

5) English schools have a duty to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of their pupils, including understanding British values.

The requirement to develop children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is set out in the Education Act (2002). In 2014, additional guidance was published for schools with regards to teaching British values. Guidance states that schools should promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance, and makes it clear that children should learn about discrimination and how to combat it. As previously discussed, Jigsaw lessons, particularly in the Celebrating Difference units of work, include teaching children about acceptance, empathy, prejudice and discrimination, and the rights and responsibilities they have as UK and global citizens. A school's SMSC education is an important part of the Ofsted inspection framework.

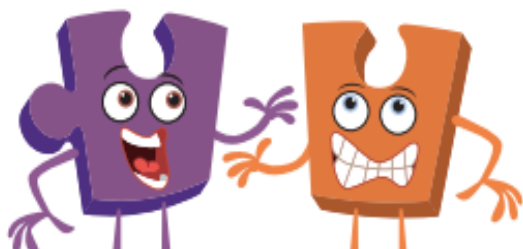


6) Schools have a legal obligation to safeguard their pupils

In England, new legally-binding safeguarding guidance was released to schools in September 2018. This establishes that schools must protect all children from physical and emotional abuse including bullying on and off line and abuse that could happen from an adult or from other children. Teaching children to accept there are a whole range of differences in people, helps combat stigma, discrimination and bullying. Children also need to be taught how to access help if they are involved in a bullying, or abusive situation. Jigsaw's lessons, particularly in the Celebrating Difference and Relationships units of work, teach children why bullying can happen and why it is unfair, how to recognise a bullying/ abusive situation and how to get help. Within this work children discuss a wide range of reasons why some people are bullied, or become bullies, and this includes some discussion around name-calling which includes the inappropriate use of words such as 'gay' and 'lesbian' as an insult towards another person. Anti-bullying guidance issued to schools in 2016 makes it clear that any bullying work should include teaching children why inappropriate use of these words is wrong and homophobic.

7) Statutory Relationships and Health Education in England

The Department for Education has already passed legislation to include mandatory Relationships and Health Education in the National Curriculum for primary schools from September 2020. New school guidance was ratified in March 2019 and sets out to schools what they are expected to teach. Primary children will learn that not all families are the same and to respect these differences. They will also learn about bullying and how to treat others with respect, whether this is within their immediate relationships, or in the wider community. The guidance also states that when learning about different families, care should be taken to avoid stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances. It also reaffirms the duty for schools to comply with the Equality Act, where sexual orientation and gender-reassignment are two of the nine protected characteristics. The Relationships and Health Education guidance does not suggest a specific age when LGBTQ should be brought into the curriculum, but there is an expectation for it to be included in a sensitive and age-appropriate manner. Schools using Jigsaw will be compliant with these new regulations.



What exactly does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ issues and is it age-appropriate?

• How much LGBTQ teaching is there in Jigsaw?

It is firstly important to understand that any reference to adult relationships, whether LGBTQ or heterosexual people is NOT describing sexual activity as this would be inappropriate. Relationships lessons focus on respect and regard between people e.g. friendships and families.

In upper Key Stage 2 the Changing Me Unit age-appropriately explains puberty and the biology of human reproduction.

Jigsaw is a complete scheme of work for Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) covering the entire PSHE curriculum for primary children aged 4-11. **Only a very small number of these lessons in the entire scheme have any focus upon LGBTQ issues.**

Jigsaw's philosophy is about inclusion and valuing all children.

• What LGBTQ material is taught in lower primary (infants)?

LGBTQ is not mentioned specifically in lessons for children aged 4-7. However, in lessons that explore differences in families, pictorial resources such as those below are used as a discussion focus. Questions such as; 'Which photos show a family?' 'What is important about a family?' and 'What does your family mean to you?' help children understand about their own and other's families and how a family is founded in love and respect. Should children raise the question about pictures that show a same-gender couple, Jigsaw's teacher notes suggest this is explained to children in the following way: 'Some children have two mummies or two daddies.' Teachers are not expected to go beyond this response, or give more detail, as that would not be age-appropriate. However, this does acknowledge and include any children who have LGBTQ people as part of their family.



• **What LGBTQ content is discussed for children aged 7-11?**

In materials for 7-11-year olds, some lessons about bullying provide opportunities for teachers to discuss and correct homophobic language the children may be using, such as the inappropriate use of the words 'gay' and 'lesbian', or the use of slang words that are LGBTQ-phobic. In the same lessons they will also be exploring racist and sexist language, or insulting language that is used about a person's physical appearance, their abilities, or whether they have special needs. In these lessons, teachers explain that any insult is unkind and hurtful. Teachers explain that being gay is a type of adult relationship where two men or two women love each other in a romantic way, and if they choose, they can get married. Teachers are not expected to go beyond this definition and give more detail. It is simply explaining what being gay means and that the word 'gay' (or other LGBTQ-related words) should not be used in an insulting or derogatory way.

In Jigsaw's Relationships and Changing Me lessons for pupils aged 7-11 that cover relationships, puberty, growing-up and how a baby is made, children are given opportunities to ask questions if there is something they don't understand. LGBTQ relationships or being LGBTQ are not explicitly discussed in the lessons, unless questions are raised about it. In which case, Jigsaw's teacher notes give possible age-appropriate ways for teachers to answer these questions. Some examples are below:

Q) What is being gay?

A) Being gay is when a man loves/ fancies another man in a romantic way, or a woman loves/fancies a woman. They may go out together as boyfriend and boyfriend, or girlfriend and girlfriend, or in time they may choose to get married.

Q) How does someone know they are gay?

A) A person usually knows they are gay or not when they are an adult and have finished going through puberty.

Q) How do gay people make a baby?

A) Gay couples can't make a baby themselves because a baby needs both a woman's ovum and a man's sperm to be made. Some gay people choose to adopt children. Some might get help from a doctor/science (e.g. IVF) to make a baby, in the same way that male/female couples do whose bodies can't have children. (If children push for more detail, teachers are advised to say they will learn more about different ways to make a baby in secondary school, and not to expand beyond the example answer).

Q) How do gay people have sex?

A) Gay people have sex in lots of different ways which is just the same as for couples who are male and female (straight/heterosexual). Sex is a special and private part of an adult relationship. (If children push for more detail, teachers are advised to say that in primary school lessons will focus on growing up, puberty and how babies are made, and they will learn more about LGBTQ relationships in secondary school and not to expand beyond the example answer).

Being Transgender

In one lesson for 10-11-year olds, children are introduced to the word 'transgender' so they understand what it means. This lesson has a focus on prejudice and discrimination where a transgender example is used. The Equality Act is also explained in an age-appropriate way. Being transgender is discussed in the following terms:

Most people are not transgender. A transgender person doesn't feel their body matches with their gender. Let me explain...a person who was born with a male body may feel they are female, and a person born with a female body may feel they are a male. There can be all sorts of reasons why this happens. Some transgender people choose to change their appearance or body so their gender matches with how they feel. This is called transitioning. Not all transgender people choose to do this though. (If children want more detail, teachers are advised to explain they will learn more about transgender people in secondary school and they should return to the focus of the lesson which is about prejudice and discrimination).

Jigsaw's decision to include this lesson was partly prompted by requests from schools who have pupils of primary age that have been identified as transgender, or are undergoing transition. Primary schools with a transgender pupil needed a lesson to help the rest of the class understand and empathise with their trans classmate. Jigsaw's decision was to include this lesson as a matter of course within the Year 6 (Age 10 - 11) materials so children understand what being transgender means, in line with the Equality Act. But, if a school needed to use the lesson in earlier years (because they have a trans pupil in a specific class), they are free to do so and should adapt the lesson accordingly for the appropriate age group.

This lesson does not promote transgenderism as a preferred lifestyle. It simply explains what being transgender is, and how some people who are trans face unfair prejudice and discrimination, in the same way that other people do e.g. through racism, ageism, sexism and prejudice against people who are disabled.



What Jigsaw doesn't do

- Jigsaw does not teach or encourage children to be LGBTQ
- Jigsaw does not teach what LGBTQ people do sexually or how their relationships function
- Jigsaw does not promote LGBTQ lifestyles as a preferential way of living
- Jigsaw's advice about answering children's questions age-appropriately does not sexualise children, destroy their innocence, or encourage them to experiment. There is more properly researched peer-reviewed evidence that supports this claim, than not.
- Jigsaw materials do not undermine 'family values'.

What Jigsaw does do

- Jigsaw teaches children to be kind, understanding and respectful of others even if they are perceived as different
- Jigsaw teaches children that people have rights but there are also responsibilities that go with these
- Jigsaw teaches children that there are laws to protect them and others from being hurt or abused and helps protect them from bullying
- Jigsaw helps clarify (age -appropriately) questions that children may have about the world

Parental right to withdraw

Up until September 2020, when statutory Relationships and Health Education becomes law in England, parents and carers have the right to withdraw from Relationships and Sex Education in primary schools, apart from elements that are included with the school's science curriculum.

This parental right changes in September 2020 when parents will not be able to withdraw from Relationships and Health Education, and this includes lessons on puberty, prejudice and discrimination, bullying, difference and diversity and different families, including the content discussed in this leaflet.

The Education Secretary, the Rt Hon Damian Hinds, who has been instrumental in bringing this new legislation forward understands the needs to consult with parents. He is also putting trust in schools to do what is right for children and young people. He has also expressed how vital it is that children do not miss out on this aspect of education...

"...consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content. We want schools to consult parents, listen to their views, and make reasonable decisions about how to proceed (including through consideration of school's wider duties)—and we (the DfE) will support schools in this. We trust school leaders and teachers to make the right professional choices....children should feel included and should grow up understanding the value and importance of kindness and respect for others and themselves..."

Rt Hon Damian Hinds 10th April 2019

Within the new DfE guidance and legislation for Relationships and Health Education, schools are actively encouraged to be open and honest with parents and carers about their intended Relationships and Health Education curriculum, and the resources they will be using. This is the reason why Jigsaw has produced this leaflet (and also one on Relationships and Sex Education) so that schools can share curriculum content with parents and carers.

Please contact your school if you require further information about the Jigsaw resources.

We, at Jigsaw, hope this leaflet explains the boundaries of the lessons that include LGBTQ, and that you will feel reassured that the materials in Jigsaw are sensitive and age -appropriate.

