



Department  
for Education

# **Help us learn more about how we can improve the teaching of Sex and Relationship Education and PSHE**

**Young people's call for evidence**

**Launch date 19 December 2017  
Respond by 12 February 2018**

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## **Introduction**

This call for evidence is to ask you what you think about how relationships and health are, and should be, taught. At the moment, these are usually taught in SRE and/or PSHE classes (Sex and Relationship Education and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education).

We want to make sure that all young people are given the best information to make informed decisions about issues affecting their lives; however, at the moment, we know that too many young people feel they don't have the knowledge they need to stay safe and help them in becoming an adult. This is particularly true with the challenges the internet brings, such as cyber-bullying, sexting and damaging online content. Young people themselves have told us they want this reflected in their education and we know many parents also want help to make sure their children are able to stay safe and happy.

That is why the government has taken action. The law has been changed to make the new subjects of Relationships Education at primary and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at secondary compulsory. The government is also considering making PSHE, or elements of the subject, compulsory in all schools – we will make a decision on this after we hear back from teachers, parents, young people and other education experts.

## **Who this is for**

This call for evidence is open to any young person (aged 19 or under) with experience of, or an interest in, the teaching of SRE and/or PSHE.

If you are under 16 you need to ensure that you have parental consent to participate in this call for evidence, please tick the box in the call for evidence to confirm you have parental consent.

## **Issue date**

The consultation was issued on 19 December 2017.

## **About this call for evidence**

This call for evidence asks for your views on these subjects and your comments will be used to help the department further refine our thinking and proposals.

## Why we need your help

We know that high-quality Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) is a key part of ensuring that all young people are equipped to have healthy and respectful relationships, and leave school with the knowledge to prepare them for adult life.

The results from this call for evidence will help us better understand what good RSE/PSHE content looks like. You know better than anyone about the pressures you and your peers face so we have launched this call for evidence to find out more about your knowledge and experiences.

Thank you for your help.

## Questions

***For each of the questions below, we will only be able to read the first 250 words of your answer – please be concise.***

We know that good Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) is important in equipping young people to have healthy and respectful relationships and to leave school with the knowledge to prepare them for adult life.

At the moment these subjects are taught differently in different types of school. You might have had separate RSE lessons at your school (perhaps called sex and relationship education – SRE), or you might have been taught about these issues as part of your PSHE lessons. You might only have been taught about reproduction in your biology lessons, or you might also not have had any RSE or PSHE lessons at all.

That is why the law has been changed so schools must teach the new subjects of Relationships Education and RSE at secondary. We are now interested in understanding which subject areas and issues you think should be covered in both subjects.

We are also thinking about whether schools must teach PSHE, or elements of the subject and your views will help us decide this and what subject areas should be included.

1. Thinking back to your lessons in SRE so far, can you pick out any subject areas which you think have been particularly important for you to have learnt about, and say why?
2. Are you aware of any subject areas in SRE, which you have not covered which you would like to know more about? If so, please say what those subject areas

are. (It may be that your teachers plan to cover these areas later, but please still answer this question if you have something to say on this).

3. Thinking back to your lessons in PSHE so far, can you pick out any subject areas which you think have been particularly important for you to have learnt about, and say why?
4. Are you aware of any subject areas in PSHE, which you have not covered which you would like to know more about? If so, please say what those subject areas are. (It may be that your teachers plan to cover these areas later, but please still answer this question if you have something to say on this).
5. If there are any other important points you would like to make on either subjects which have not been captured by these questions, please write them below.

## Enquiries

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the consultation you can contact the team by email: [PSHE-RSE.consultation@education.gov.uk](mailto:PSHE-RSE.consultation@education.gov.uk)

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the DfE Ministerial and Public Communications Division by email: [Consultations.Coordinator@education.gov.uk](mailto:Consultations.Coordinator@education.gov.uk) or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the [DfE Contact us page](#).

## Respond online

To help us analyse the responses please use the online system wherever possible. Visit [www.education.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations). If for exceptional reasons you are unable to use the online system, for example because you use specialist accessibility software that is not compatible with the system, you may send us your views by email to [PSHE-RSE.consultation@education.gov.uk](mailto:PSHE-RSE.consultation@education.gov.uk) or by post to:

RSE and PSHE team

Department for Education

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Great Smith Street

London. SW1P 3BT

## Deadline and response

This call for evidence closes at 11.59pm on 12 February 2018. The results of the call for evidence and the Department's response will be published on GOV.UK in spring 2018.

## Confidentiality (privacy) of your responses

Information that people give us in forms like this is sometimes published or shared with other people. If this happens, we won't publish or share information that identifies people.

If you tell us anything about yourself, or other people, the law says that we can only do certain things with this information. It means that information about you must only be used to help us understand what you are telling us and it cannot be given to anyone else unless the law tells us that we can or it says that we have to.

We might publish a report about the answers we receive from everyone. If we do, people reading the report will not know who you are or that you took part in this.

Please let us know if you think that some, or all, of your answers should be kept private (not shared with anyone else) and explain why you think we should not share it.

If someone asks us to give them the information you have provided, we will think about the reason why you do not want it shared and then decide whether we should give it to them or not. If we do, we will still need to make sure that the law lets us do this.

Thank you very much for completing the call for evidence. The results will be used to help us better understand what good teaching of PSHE/RSE looks like.

Please let us know any further comments or thoughts that you would like to share with us by emailing us at: [PSHE-RSE.consultation@education.gov.uk](mailto:PSHE-RSE.consultation@education.gov.uk)



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