Easy read guide about the Relationships and Sex Education review

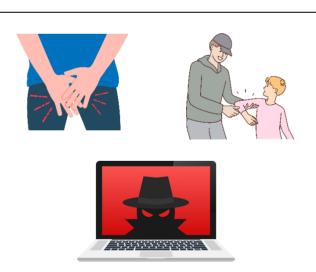
The government has reviewed their guidance about what to teach in Relationships and Sex Education which all schools should follow.



It wants to change the guidance to say that for some topics, teachers won't be able to talk about them with children before a certain age.



These topics include: sex education, Sexually Transmitted Infections, types of abuse, and learning about what might be unsafe for children on the internet.



We think teachers should be able to decide when to give information to their pupils as they know what their class needs best.



Children need information that is easy to understand and right for their age to help them make decisions and keep themselves safe.



If teachers can't talk about these topics before a certain age, it makes it difficult to answer questions children might have before this age.



Some people think some topics are too grown up or complicated. Some people think children need to be prepared for things that may happen as they get older. The review does not include information explaining why these age limits might help.

The review also says teachers will not be able to talk about gender identity.



The review gives primary schools a choice about including families with same-sex couples and transgender members, which means some schools may choose not to.



If schools don't talk about all kinds of families, sexual orientations and genders, some children may feel left out and upset.



The review suggests adding new topics, which schools will have to teach including:

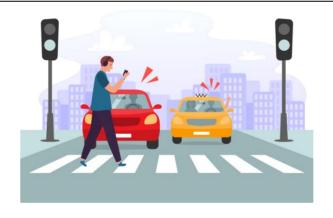
Loneliness

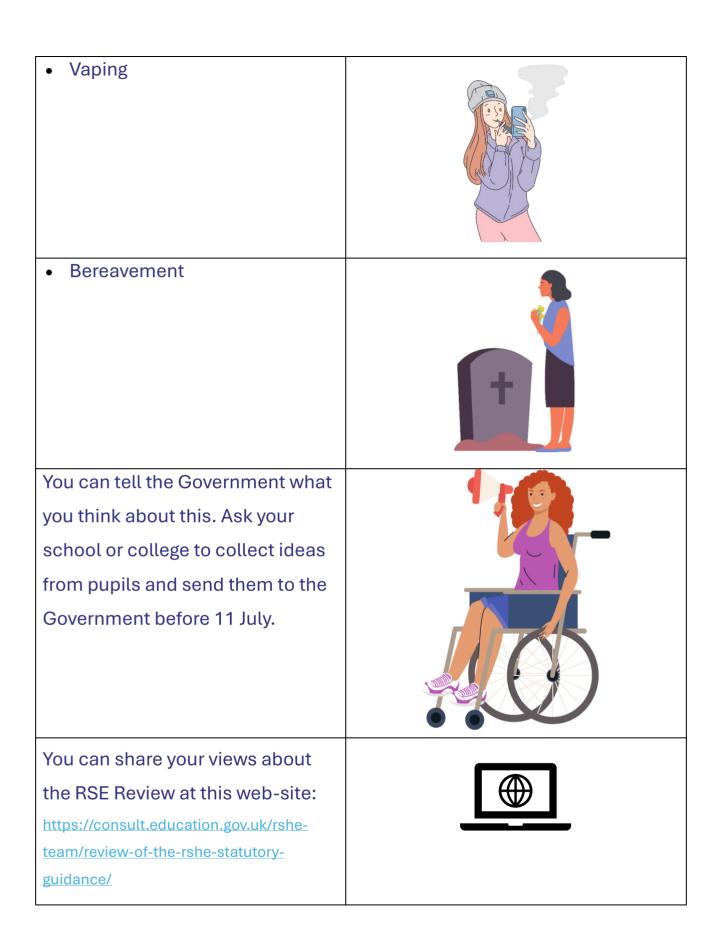


 More information about pregnancy and parenting



 Personal safety, including road, railway and water safety





Glossary

Relationships and Sex Education: Learning about growing up, different kinds of relationships, sex and how to stay healthy.

Guidance: Instructions on what to do.

Reviewed: Read and thought about again.

Gender identity: Whether a person thinks and feels that they are a girl, boy or neither.

Transgender: The gender given to a person at birth because of their private body parts (penis and testicles or vulva) is not the same one that they think and feel they are.

Same-sex couples: When two people of the same gender are in a relationship together.

Sexual harassment: Being touched or spoken to in a way that is inappropriate and linked to private areas of your body.

Sexually Transmitted Infections: An illness that can be passed between two people having sex.

Abuse: Being hurt, harmed or not looked after properly by another person

Bereavement: How you feel when someone you know dies.

This Easy Read guide was published in June 2024 by the Sex Education Forum.

Sex Education Forum is a Registered charity No.1193467, registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. © Sex Education Forum

