

An introduction to the Sex Education Forum

Trustee recruitment information



Who we are

Established in 1987, the Sex Education Forum is a group of partners working together to achieve quality relationships and sex education (RSE) for all children and young people.

We built the consensus of support for statutory RSE and are trusted by schools, the media, government and researchers as the leading authority on RSE.

Our work on RSE is underpinned by evidence, a rights-based approach and the expressed needs of children and young people.

We became a registered charity in April 2021, No 1193467 with governance provided by our trustees.





Since 1987, we have

Spoken as a group of partner organisations held together by shared values and principles.

Collected and disseminated evidence, including from young people, parents and teachers, and via Select Committee enquiries.

Disseminated good practice in teaching RSE, tackling challenging issues and supporting educators.

Linked closely with government officials and Ministers, with a seat at the table as DfE policy developed over 3 decades.

Used the press to shift public opinion and challenge misinformation.

Influenced parliamentarians and policy-makers and secured legislative change.

Our objectives

RSE is now statutory, but there is still much to do to ensure all children & young people receive quality RSE

Objective one

Ensuring children and young people's right to RSE is firmly embedded into national and local government policies and is understood and supported by the public and professionals.

Objective two

Supporting professionals to be well informed and competent to commission, plan, teach, evaluate and research RSE in partnership with parents, carers and children and young people.

Objective three

To identify, explore and respond to new themes and at times challenging issues emerging in practice, policy and research, nationally and internationally and particularly in relation to children and young people most at risk of missing out on RSE and of poor sexual health and relationships outcomes.

Partnership and collaboration is integral to achieving our objectives

The Sex Education Forum is the only national partnership of organisations dedicated to RSE policy, practice and evidence.

Our partners include VCSOs, local authorities and commercial organisations. They span family, faith, education, health, disability, advocacy and research organisations, with a mix of RSE specialists and broader focus on children and young people's wellbeing.

Applications from partners are reviewed to ensure values, including evidence-based approach, are aligned.

Logos from a selection of our 70+ partners are included on the next slide.

proud to be a partner



working together for quality
relationships and sex education



Membership

We have three types of membership:

- **Partner:** For organisations with strategic interest or specialist expertise in RSE
- **Educator:** For teachers, educators or schools delivering RSE
- **Supporter:** The most recent tier of our membership - ideal for individuals with an interest in RSE who want to help us achieve our objectives

www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/membership

"Thank you as always for the brilliant resources and materials provided by the Sex Education Forum". Membership is worth every penny!!" Josie, local authority PSHE advisor

Our events programme facilitates networking & practice-sharing with members

**“A brilliant event, great
mix of learning,
practical examples and
sharing ideas.”** *SEF
Partner*

You are warmly invited to:



working together for quality
relationships and sex education

Summer Partners' Event 8 July 2021

9.30 am – midday with informal networking from 9.00am

Agenda

- **Welcome from our Chair, Alison Hadley OBE**
- **Ellie Simpson** – A History of Sex Education: Lessons from the Past, 1943-2020.
- **Brighton and Hove's updated Trans Inclusion Schools Toolkit:** Sam Beal in conversation with Lucy Emmerson
- **Making Space in RSE – taking a racial lens to RSE,** presenting a new 'Workbook for educators on taking a racial justice lens to RSE', and hearing from Euella Jackson.
- **RSE Awards 2021**
Announcement of the winners of the RSE Awards.
Congratulations from TV's Dr Ranj and the judges.
Presentations from the winners.

Please share your updates using the Padlet link.

Our annual RSE Awards celebrate excellence in teaching relationships and sex education

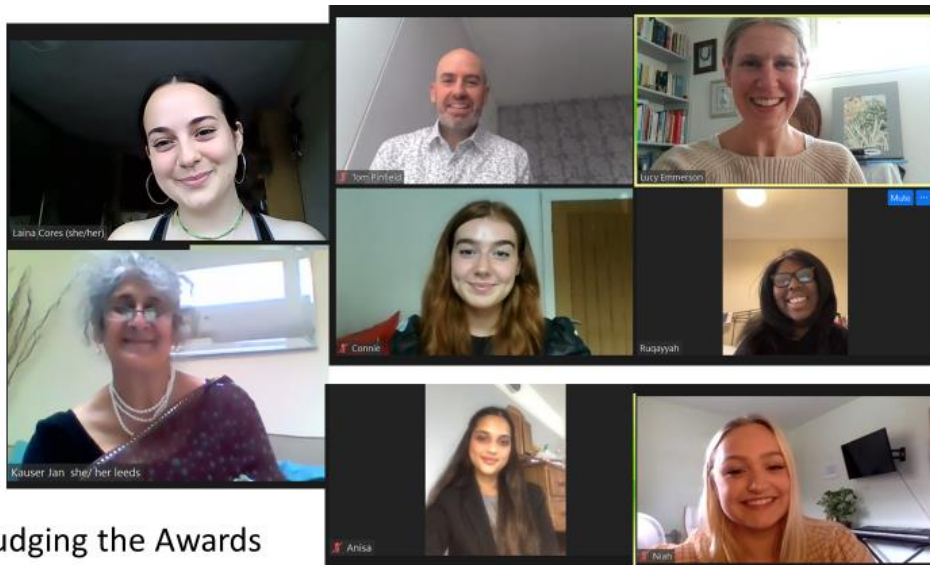


Gemma Sharple & Kate Boot,
Oakwood Court College, Dawlish

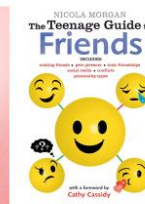
Innovative use of speech and language therapy approaches helps students to access many conversations that are important in life.



Dr Ranj announcing the Awards



Judging the Awards



Prizes

Training educators

- Our termly calendar advertises open courses for individuals to book on to
- We offer a growing range of SEND specialist training courses
- Commissions from local authorities and individual schools enable us to provide bespoke training

Objective two

Supporting professionals to be well informed and competent to commission, plan, teach, evaluate and research RSE in partnership with parents, carers and children and young people.



Funded projects focus on addressing inequalities

Objective three

To identify, explore and respond to new themes and at times challenging issues emerging in practice, policy and research, nationally and internationally and particularly in relation to children and young people most at risk of missing out on RSE and of poor sexual health and relationships outcomes.

About the Making Space in RSE project



Making space in RSE

A workbook for educators for taking a racial justice lens to Relationships and Sex Education

Start Talking: *Better Sexual and Reproductive Health for Young People in Foster Care*
An expert partnership with unrivalled reach

**The
Fostering
Network**



The UK's leading fostering charity and essential network for everyone involved in foster care

- Delivers sector-leading training, advice and support for foster families and fostering services
- Influences national and local policy and legislation
- Effects systemic change through programmes of innovation

We have commissioned a Young People's RSE Poll to give an up-to-date picture in 2021

Did you learn everything you needed to about the following?

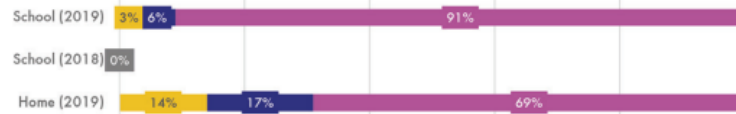
For each of 22 topic areas, 1,000 16-17 year olds were asked this question in relation to what they learned at school and from their parents/carers (home). The response choices were 'yes', 'no' or 'I didn't learn about this at all'.

"I didn't learn about this at all"

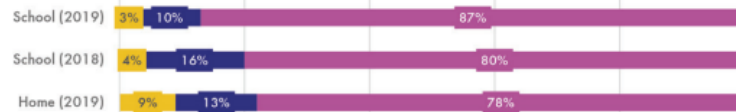
"No, I didn't learn everything I needed"

"Yes, I learned everything I needed"

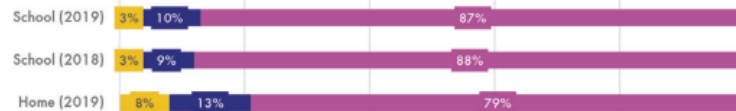
How babies are born and conceived



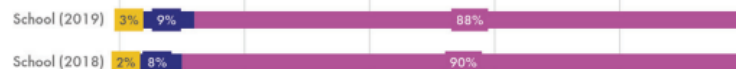
Puberty



Bullying



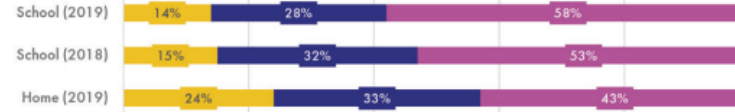
Cyberbullying



Fertility



How to access local sexual health services



Marriage and other committed relationships



How to get help if sexually abused or assaulted



Immediate priorities for the Sex Education Forum Board of Trustees

- **Youth participation:** Ensuring that children and young people have a central voice in accelerating change and guiding the next phase of our work
- **Fully utilising digital tools:** Realising our potential through digital, since we are now an organisation that operates remotely, and with services such as membership, events and training that are all underpinned by digital systems
- **Growing our organisation:** Sustaining and expanding our work by having an appropriate fundraising strategy in place

Find out more

Sex Education Forum regularly features [in the media](#). You can also read examples of [blogs](#) from partners and staff and get a sense of [our history](#).

You are welcome to arrange an informal conversation with our Chair of Trustees Alison Hadley OBE or Chief Executive Lucy Emmerson. Email lucy@sexeducationforum.org.uk

Application deadline: midday - 22 November 2021.

Full details and application form from www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/newtrustees

