

<b>COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Report Title</b>	Motion 3 in the name of Councillor Walsh to be seconded by Councillor Moore	
<b>Key Decision</b>		Item No.
<b>Ward</b>		
<b>Contributors</b>	Acting Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date: July 24 2019

### **LGBT+ inclusive Relationship & Sex Education**

This Council welcomes the introduction of statutory Relationships Education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), which all primary and secondary schools in England respectively will be required to teach from September 2020.

Recently we have seen a small but growing minority of vocal individuals who have begun lobbying primary schools, spreading misinformation and in some cases leading protests outside schools, trying to stop LGBT+ inclusive RSE.

People of all faiths and none, are LGBT and it is vital that all children receive comprehensive and inclusive 'relationships and sex' education, regardless of their parents' beliefs. The last guidance on relationships and sex education was written over 20 years ago, and we need to ensure that we bring this guidance up to date and that all children are receiving the education they need to understand their identity, navigate the world, and form healthy and respectful relationships.

The 2017 Labour Manifesto confirmed the party's commitment to "age-appropriate inclusive RSE". The term 'age appropriate' should be taken to mean the age at which children and young people are introduced to different aspects of relationships, including sex (but not exclusively), and should not indicate that same sex relationships should be taught at a different age to heterosexual relationships.

This Council notes that ridding this country of the scourge of Section 28 (which gagged Schools and Local Authorities from acknowledging the LGBT+ community and their needs in compulsory education) was a significant win for LGBT Equality, and we must play no part in rowing back the tides of progress that have been made since then.

This Council also believes that parents' rights and religious freedoms should be respected but balanced against children's independent, legally protected rights and the need to eliminate discrimination. We believe schools should be supported to proactively communicate with parents and carers about the nature and importance of RSE and the detrimental effects that withdrawal might have on their children.

**This Council resolves to:**

- Confirm its support for compulsory relationship education for all schools (including primary schools) which is LGBT+ inclusive and promotes respect, acceptance and diversity.
- Write to the Secretary for Education asking them to ensure they don't just pass policy, but make the Government's inclusive Relationship & Sex Education a reality, through providing resource to ensure the necessary training, resources, guidance and support for schools and teachers in introducing and maintaining inclusive RSE.