



Alliance  
for Learning

BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

# Relationship, Sex and Health Education Training Programme for Secondary Schools

## Interim Impact Report September 2020



**Bright Futures**

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## **Introduction**

The Alliance for Learning Teaching School (AfL) was successful in bidding to deliver Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) training to secondary schools through a DfE funded programme to prepare schools for the new RSHE curriculum. AfL were delighted to be awarded a contract to deliver to state funded secondary schools, particularly as this work fits closely with other initiatives that we lead, such as the Greater Manchester Mentally Healthy Schools project and other PSHE Hub projects.

Relationships Education is now compulsory in all primary schools in England and Relationships and Sex Education compulsory in all secondary schools, as well as Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools.

The statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) is issued under Section 80A of the Education Act 2020 and section 403 of the Education Act 1996 (ref1).

The start of the training delivery coincided with the Covid-19 pandemic, and therefore, the programme quickly moved to online delivery through Google Classrooms. This created the opportunity for multiple staff from each school to take part in the training and for the training to be accessed by more schools.

The new curriculum came into effect from September 2020, but due to delays and challenges in some schools due to Covid-19, the expectation is that all schools will be delivering some aspects of the new curriculum during the academic year 2020/21, but they won't be inspected against the new curriculum until academic year 2021/22.

Due to the needs of schools, the DfE increased our reach to deliver the training to up to 400 schools, primarily in the Lancashire and West Yorkshire and North regions.

We are delivering the programme in three waves, based on start date and geographical location. Wave one started in June 2020, wave two will start at the end of September 2020 and wave three will start in October 2020. The programme is funded until the end of March 2021, although the materials will remain online for participants to access.

## **Main aims**

The main aims of the training programme are specifically to:

- Increase subject knowledge
- Increase confidence in delivering the curriculum
- Increase networking and peer support opportunities

## **Partnership and collaboration:**

We have created partnerships with the following agencies and charities and they have provided support in various ways including providing materials, delivering a webinar or additional resources.

Brook, Stonewall, Jigsaw, PSHE Solutions, We Do Wellbeing, Tough Cookies, Young Minds, What's the Debate, The Proud Trust, iheart, GreaterSport and Youth Sport Trust.



**GREATERSPORT**

**YOUNGMINDS**



**tough cookies.**  
education



We have a number of colleagues including Local Authorities who are receiving the training (not funded) to enable relevant partners to see the training, contribute to it and learn from it. In addition we have some Independent Schools (not funded) receiving the training to enable a whole system approach.

We are working closely the primary provider of the training in Lancashire and West Yorkshire and sharing content ensuring that we both understand the primary and secondary stages of the curriculum and sharing good practice where possible.

### 1. The Training

The training for secondary schools covers 13 mandatory topics plus and introductory topic that we have developed to provide schools with a good understanding of the requirements, consultation process and policy requirements.

Specialist Leaders of Education (SLEs) from the Alliance for Learning Teaching School worked with preliminary DfE materials to write, produce and present the topics. The on-line training materials are interactive, include activities, questioning to check knowledge and provide links to a range of additional resources that can be used in the classroom. SLEs are also providing additional support to those schools that need it.

The topics are:

Mental Wellbeing, Intimate and Sexual Relationships, Changing Adolescent Body, Respectful Relationships, Online Relationships, Basic First Aid, Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco, Physical Health and Fitness, Being Safe, Health and Prevention, Internet Safety and Harms, Healthy Eating, and Families.

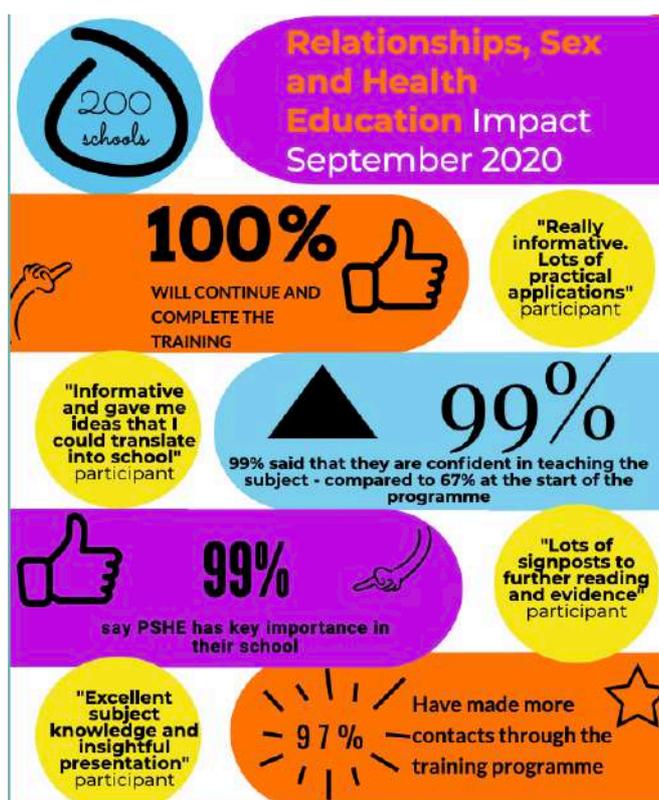
Webinars hosted by external agencies and charities are enhancing the topics and providing participants with both a greater understanding of the subject area and widening their support network.

As part of the wrap-around support for the training programme, we have also offered schools the opportunity to do an additional training course with us that is related to the RSHE course. These include; Transgender Awareness, Creating a Mindful School, Mindful Leadership and Youth mental First Aid.

### Impact so far

We continue to evaluate the impact of the training throughout the programme. For the 200 schools in wave one, the feedback is very positive so far. We will provide a full evaluation when the school have completed the training programme.

- 99% feel that RSHE has a high profile in their school
- 99% are more confident with the subject (this compares to 67% at the start)
- 100% will continue with the training
- 97% have made more contacts with RSHE/PSHE agencies, charities and school colleagues



The real evidence of impact will come from the schools when the new curriculum is being delivered in the classroom. We will be keeping in touch with all of the schools who have received the training to really understand the impact of the training and to develop and tweak the training for future schools taking part so we can continually improve it.

The impact of the webinars supporting the training has also received positive feedback:

- 95% of participants said the webinar enhanced their knowledge
- 97% said they would recommend the webinar to a friend
- 96% said they thought the content was very good

We are very confident that we will continue to further improve the training materials as we deliver to future waves.

### **References**

1 - Statutory Guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>