

Respect

Respectful Relationships Education
for Queensland Schools

Frequently asked questions

Respectful relationships education (RRE)

Are schools required to deliver RRE?

All Queensland state schools are required to provide health and wellbeing education, including respectful relationships education, through the delivery of the required curriculum and a whole-school approach to learning and wellbeing.

Respectful relationships education can also be delivered as part of a school's health and wellbeing program and/or through specific and targeted opportunities within the school year.

Are RRE teaching and learning materials age-appropriate?

The Australian Curriculum provides the frame of reference for specific age-appropriate content for teaching and learning.

RRE takes a developmental approach to content and delivery. Age-appropriate learning means that each concept is explored in ways that relate to students' developmental stage, interests and learning style.

Over the years of schooling from Prep to Year 12, students will be exposed to age-appropriate learning opportunities that help them build respectful relationships, understand consent and understand help-seeking behaviours.

Why is my child being taught consent education?

Education about consent and sexual health underpins healthy relationships and is addressed through the Australian Curriculum Health and Physical Education content in age-appropriate ways from Prep to Year 10.

Learning about consent, permission and boundaries should be ongoing, start early and be based on real-life scenarios.

Consent doesn't necessarily relate to sex or intimate relationships. It is agreeing to something or giving permission for something. Giving or receiving consent involves providing and receiving a clear, definite yes.

Does RRE teach boys to feel ashamed and girls to feel like victims?

RRE promotes respect and equality and helps everyone learn how to build healthy relationships, regardless of gender.

Teaching and learning in RRE does not make students feel ashamed, or feel like victims.

Is RRE trying to make all children 'gender neutral'?

RRE is about creating an environment in which children and young people are not restricted by gender stereotypes and are free to explore and play as they choose.

When society, communities, workplaces, sporting clubs, faith organisations, classrooms and families insist on respect and equality, then gender-based violence, such as domestic and family violence and sexual assault, along with other issues like harassment, bullying or discrimination, are far less likely to occur.





Does RRE teach radical gender theory?

Respect is about treating everyone equally, regardless of their gender, culture, ethnicity, faith or any other attributes. It's also about making sure everyone feels included and valued.

Through RRE, schools teach students about personal and cultural identities and gender stereotyping in an age-appropriate way from Prep to Year 12.

This supports students to value their own health, wellbeing and safety, and to respect diversity, equality, and the rights and safety of others.

Can education solve the problem of domestic and family violence?

RRE teaches students to understand how to interact with others and to develop positive, respectful relationships as they grow and become adults themselves.

Educating children and young people about healthy and respectful relationships at school and at home is an important strategy for helping to create a future free from violence.

RRE is part of a society-wide approach. Schools, families, government, business, community and all of us as individuals have a role to play in building and modelling respectful relationships.

How can parents and carers talk to our young people?

By having regular conversations about what positive, happy and equal relationships look like, you help your child build self-respect and learn to be respectful to others.

'Big talks' about things like consent can be tricky, so it's often best to make the most of opportunities when they come up. These conversations will assist in building your child's personal and social skills.

How can parents and families play a role?

As a parent or carer, you play a primary role in teaching your child to treat others with respect, and in helping them set an expectation to be treated with respect.

Children and young people need the skills to build safe and healthy relationships with their family, friends, peers, workmates and others, in all aspects of their lives.

Parents and families are an important part of our whole-school approach to RRE and have the opportunity to reinforce and model these messages outside the school gates.

Further resources and support

- › Visit the **RRE Hub** available at <https://www.qld.gov.au/respectfulrelationshipshub>
- › Visit the **eSafety Commissioner** website for parents available at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>
- › Contact the **Parentline Support Service** by calling 1300 30 1300 for confidential counselling and support for parents and carers between 8am and 10pm, 7 days a week