

☆ To move the following Clause—

“Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children: Relationships education

- 5 (1) For the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, the Secretary of State must, by regulations, make Relationships Education a statutory component of the National Curriculum within the meaning of Part 6 of the Education Act 2002.
- 10 (2) Following consultation, the regulations must include provisions relating to the curriculum of Relationships Education, which must include, but shall not be restricted to—
- 15 (a) how to recognise and understand a healthy relationship, including self-respect and respect for others,
- (b) how to recognise and handle bullying and peer pressure, such as sexting,
- (c) the meaning of consent,
- (d) signs of an exploitative relationship, including physical, mental and sexual harassment,
- 20 (e) conflict management, and
- (f) safety online, such as exposure to pornography.
- (3) In the Academies Act 2010, after subsection (1)(b) of section 1A insert—
- 25 “(1)(b)(a) it has a curriculum satisfying the requirements of regulations made under section (Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children: Relationships Education) of the Children and Social Work Act 2017.”
- (4) The governing body of a maintained school or Academy must consult parents and local safeguarding partners on the manner of provision of Relationships Education.
- 30 (5) The governing body of a maintained school or Academy must—
- (a) make, and keep up to date, a written statement of their policy with regard to the manner of provision and content of Relationships Education, and
- (b) make copies of the statement publicly available and bring it to the attention of all registered pupils’ parents and local safeguarding partners in a manner considered appropriate by the school.
- 35 (6) The Secretary of State must issue guidance, which must include but shall not be restricted to, guidance to secure that when Relationships Education is given to registered pupils at a maintained school or Academy—
- (a) they learn the importance of respect, tolerance and commitment in all types of healthy relationships,
- (b) they learn how the quality of relationships affects mental and physical health in both adults and children,
- 40 (c) they are protected from teaching and materials which are inappropriate having regard to the age and the religious background of the pupils concerned.
- (7) In discharging their functions under regulations introduced by this section governing bodies and head teachers must have regard to—
- 45 (a) the Secretary of State’s guidance issued under subsection (6), and
- (b) where any teaching covers issues relating to sex education, the Secretary of State’s guidance issued under section 403(1A) of the Education Act 1996.
- (8) Sections 404 and 405 of the Education Act 1996 apply to any subject taught through Relationships Education that the governing body considers to fall within the meaning of sex education.
- 50 (9) The Secretary of State may at any time revise the guidance under subsection (6).”

Member’s explanatory statement

This new clause would require the Secretary of State to make Relationships Education a statutory subject within the National Curriculum, including for Academies. Content must include those subjects outlined in subsection (2) and Relationships Education must be taught having regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State under subsection (6) and sex education under subsection (7).