

# Getting on track with the new Relationships Education in Primary schools: Resources on friendships



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**Educating  
Northants**

**Educating Northants 2021 | Saturday 27 March**

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# Why friendships matter



Well-being and mental health



Learning, engagement and achievement



Resilience and coping



Belonging





# Friends at any cost?

- Characteristics of friendships
- Quality vs quantity



# The new Relationships, RSE and Health Education

- Compulsory in all schools
- Schools can determine how to deliver the content
- Material should be accessible to all pupils
- Making informed decisions about their health, relationships and well-being
- Communication to schools on the implementation of Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex and Health Education (June 2020)



## Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education

Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers

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



# Statutory Relationships Education

## Relationships Education: Primary Curriculum

**Fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships**

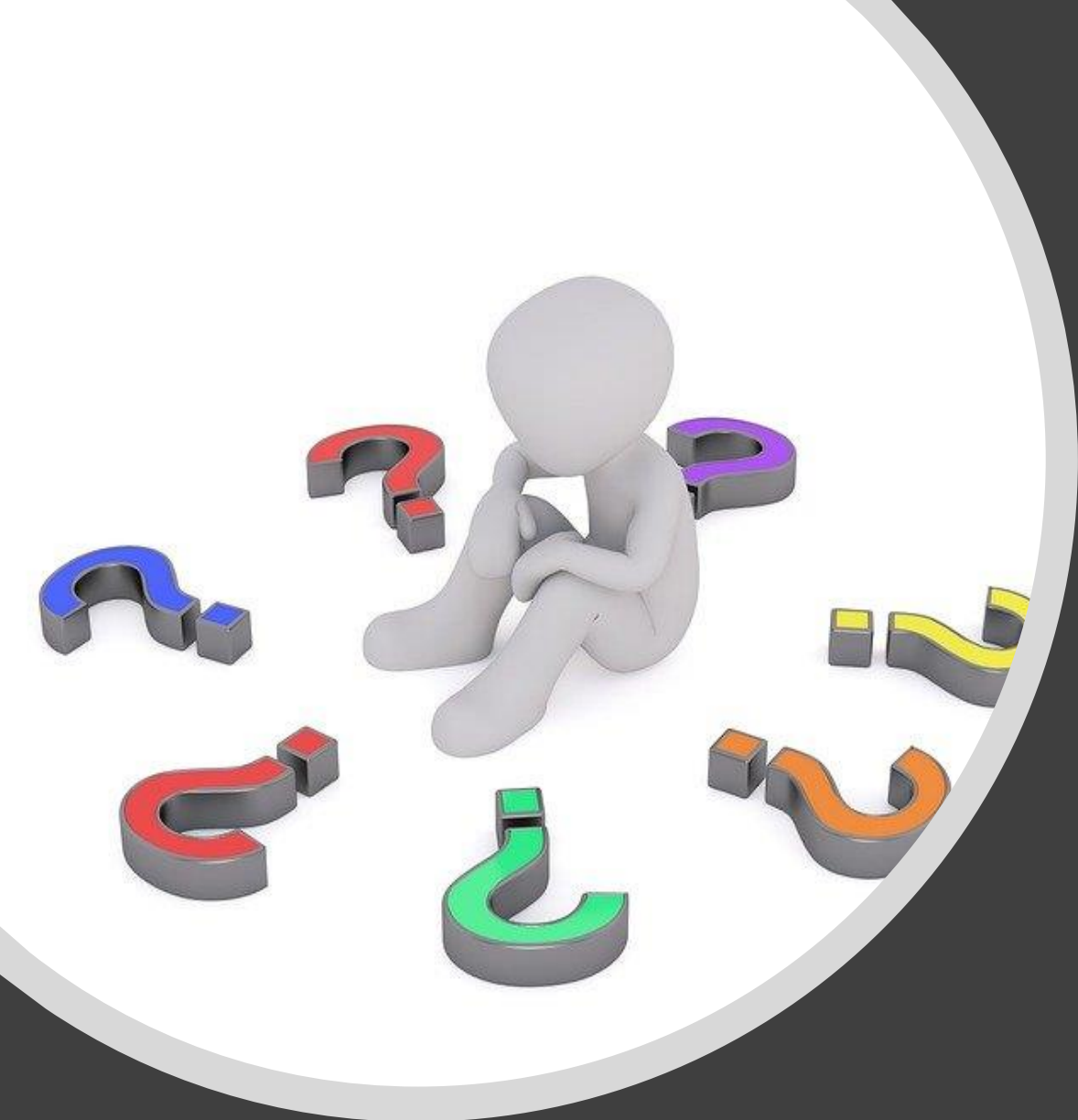
- Families and people who care for me
- **Caring friendships**
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

## Relationships and Sex Education: Secondary Curriculum

**Information to help develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds**

- Families
- Respectful relationships, **including friendships**
- Online and media
- Being safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health





# The challenges

- Not feeling prepared
- Lack of support/resourcing
- Knowing what children need
- Ensuring developmental appropriateness
- Quality controlling resources/materials
- Time and planning



## How we can help you

- Resources for educational professionals that cover the required RE curriculum content under 'Caring Friendships' (Primary)
- Aimed at Key Stage 2 (7-11 years), but potential for flexibility
- Whole classes or smaller groups
- Universal or targeted
- Intended to be 'off the shelf' to minimize planning

<https://mypad.northampton.ac.uk/ourclassfriendships/>



## OUR CLASS

Educational resources about children's friendships

[Home](#) [What is 'Our Class'?](#) [Why is 'Our Class' important?](#) [How you can help](#) [Teachers and Educational Professionals](#) [Parents](#) [Schools](#) [Contacts](#) [Project News](#)

### Welcome to 'Our Class'

'Our Class' is a series of educational resources to help teach primary school children about friendships and peer relationships.



The resources are aimed at children aged 7-11 years (Key Stage 2) and are particularly relevant to the new Department for Education [statutory guidance on Relationships Education](#) (Caring Friendships)

These educational resources have been [developed by psychology researchers](#) based on [research into children's friendships](#) and the importance of good quality relationships.

#### THE 'OUR CLASS' RESOURCES



#### GET INVOLVED



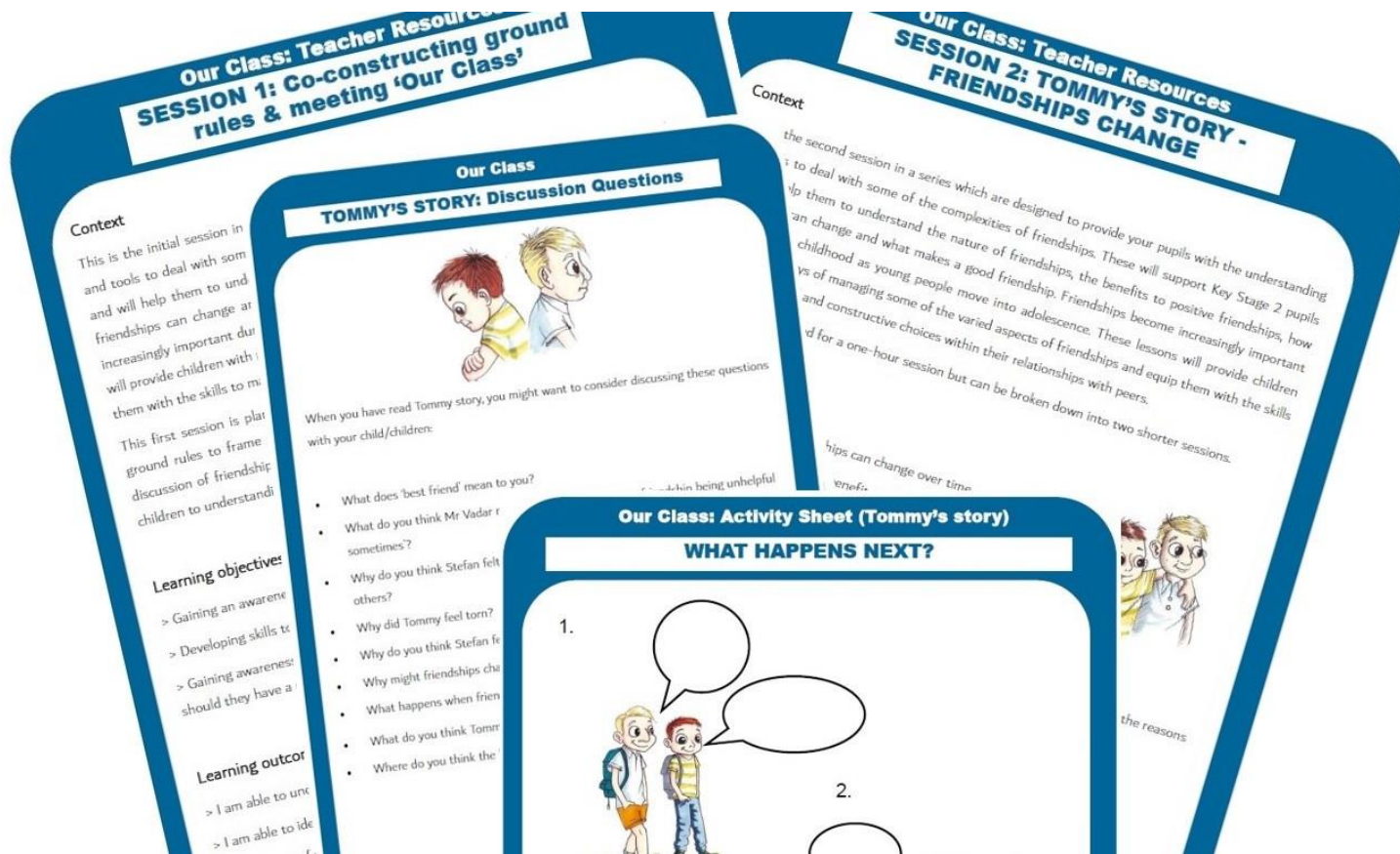
Search ...

# Introducing 'Our Class'

- Class 6V at Bankwell Primary School
- Uses illustrated stories to feature friendship scenarios of different characters in the class that children can relate to
- Comes with lesson plans and suggested activities
- Designed to be engaging to children and interactive
- Based on research on children's friendship







The sample (pilot) materials

### Session 1

- Welcome to 6V (story)
- Introductory lesson plan (ground rules; creating a conducive environment)

### Session 2

- Tommy's story
- Lesson plan (how friendships change, and strategies to manage this)

### Additional resources



# How to access the resources

Go to the 'Our Class' site  
(<https://mypad.northampton.ac.uk/ourclassfriendships>)

Navigate to the 'Teachers and educational professionals'  
section

Follow the link at the bottom to 'find out more'

There is some information to fill in, and then you will be able  
to download the sample materials

You will be invited to complete a feedback survey (online)





# EVALUATE

## Feedback options

1. Read, review and provide feedback via online survey
2. Try out the materials (or part of them) with some of the children/young people you work with and provide feedback via online survey
3. Involve your school so we can obtain pre- and post- data from the children and seek their views about the sessions



# Our contacts

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# Thank you

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