

Glossary of common terms RSE, PSHE & Careers

Keyword	Meaning
Abortion	The deliberate termination of a pregnancy
Adoption	The act of fact of legally taking another's child and bringing it up as one's own
AIDs	A disease in which there is severe loss of the body's cellular immunity greatly lowering the resistance to infection and malignancy
Bisexual	Sexually attracted to both men and women
Bullying	Seek to harm, intimidate or coerce (someone perceived as vulnerable)
Bystander	A person who is present at an event or incident who does not take part
Civil partnership	A legally recognised union of a same sex couple, with rights similar to those of marriage
Coercion/ coercive control	The action or practice of persuading someone to do something through force or threats
Conflict	A serious disagreement or argument often protracted over a long period of time
Consent (consensual behaviour)	Permission for something to happen – actively agreeing to be sexual with someone. (Sexual activity without consent is rape or sexual assault.)
Contraception	Deliberate use of artificial methods to prevent pregnancy as a consequence of sexual intercourse
County lines	When criminals from major cities expand their drug networks to other areas of the country
Cyberbullying	The use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature
Demi sexual	Want to get to know someone as a friend before they become sexually attracted
Democracy	A system of government by the whole population typically through elected representatives
Depression	Feelings of severe despondency and dejection
Discrimination	The unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of race, age, sex or religion
Domestic abuse	Incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour including sexual violence, in the majority of cases by a partner/ex-partner, family member or carer
Executive	The branch of government responsible for putting decision or laws into effect
Extremism	The holding of extreme political or religious views
FGM female genital mutilation	Procedure where the female genitals are deliberately cut, injured or changed for no medical reason. Also known as

	female circumcision (sunna, gudniin, halalays, tahur, megrez, khitan)
Fertility	The ability to conceive children
Gay	Homosexual person (often referred to as a man)
Gender identity	Person's perception of having a particular gender which may or may not correspond with their birth sex
Grooming	The action by a paedophile of preparing a child for a meeting, often via internet chat, with the intention of committing a sexual offence
Hate crime	A crime, typically involving violence, that is motivated by prejudice on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, or other grounds
Heterosexual	Attracted to the opposite sex
Homophobia	Dislike or prejudice against homosexual people
Homosexual	Attracted to people of you own sex
HIV	Potentially life-threatening infection caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), damaging your immune system, HIV interferes with the body's ability to fight organisms that cause disease
Immunisation	Action of making a person or animal immune to infection
Intimacy	Close familiarity/friendship
Islamaphobia	Dislike or prejudice against Islam or muslims, especially as a political force
Judiciary	The part of a country's government that is responsible for its legal system, including judges, and the courts
Legislature	Group of people who have the power to make and change laws
Lesbian	Homosexual woman/ gay woman
Marriage	A legally recognised union of two people as partners in a personal relationship
Menopause	The ceasing of menstruation (typically 45-50)
Menstruation	The process in a woman of discharging blood and other material from the lining of the womb/uterus at intervals of @ month
Mental well-being	A state of well-being in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his/her community
Miscarriage	The spontaneous or unplanned expulsion of a foetus from the womb before it is able to survive independently
Monarchy	A form of government with the monarch at its head
Non-consensual behaviour	Without the willing agreement of the people involved
Orgasm	The climax of sexual excitement, characterised by intensely pleasurable feelings in the genitals and in men experienced as an accompaniment to ejaculation
Parliament (in the UK)	Highest legislature consisting of the Sovereign, House of Lords and House of Commons

Pornography	Printed or visual material containing the explicit description or display of sexual organs or activity, intended to stimulate sexual excitement
Pregnancy	The state of carrying a developing embryo or foetus
Prejudice	Preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience
Puberty	The period during which adolescents reach sexual maturity and become capable of reproduction
Radicalisation	The action or process of causing someone to adopt a radical position on political or social issues
Reconciliation	The restoration of friendly relations
Self-examination	The study of one's own behaviours and motivations; the action of examining one's own body for signs of illness
Sexual attraction	Attraction on the basis of sexual desire; emotional response where you find someone sexually appealing
Sexually explicit material	The depiction or description of nudity, including sexual, or excretory activities or organs
Sexual exploitation	Sexual abuse of children through the exchange of sex or sexual acts for drugs, food, shelter, protection/other basics, &/or money. Includes pornography &/or sexually explicit material
Sexual harassment	Behaviour characterised by the making of unwelcome or inappropriate sexual remarks or physical advances in a workplace or other professional or social situation
Sexually transmitted infections STIs	An infection you can get from having sex; some affect sexual or reproductive organs; other cause general body infections
Sexual orientation	A person's sexual identity in relation to the gender to which they are attracted – homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual
Stereotypes	A widely held, fixed or oversimplified image or idea of a particular person or thing
Stress	A state of mental or emotional strain resulting from adverse or demanding circumstances
Surrogacy	An arrangement, often supported by a legal agreement, whereby a woman agrees to become pregnant and give birth to a child for another person, who is or will become the parent of the child
Terrorism	The unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims
Transgender	Sense of identity and gender does not correspond with their birth sex
Vaccination	Treatment with a vaccine to produce immunity against a disease