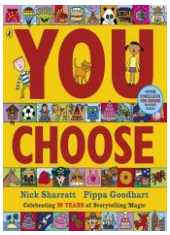
DRAFT
This is a draft document, shared as part of the RSHE consultation with all stakeholders.

Proposed RSHE Book Spine

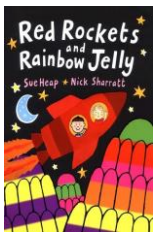
Reception books



You Choose

Pippa Goodhart · illustrated by Nick Sharratt

An interactive book that asks children to imagine where they might go, who they might meet and what they might choose. Every reading can lead to a different story.



Red Rockets and Rainbow Jelly

Sue Heap and Nick Sharratt

Two children share the colourful things they like, from red rockets to rainbow jelly. The bright pictures invite children to notice colours and talk about their own favourites.



Hello Hello

Brendan Wenzel

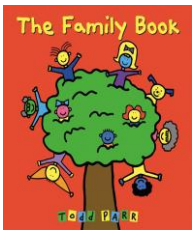
A rhythmic parade of animals greets the reader. As creatures of many shapes, colours and patterns meet, children can spot both their differences and the things they share.



Blue Chameleon

Emily Gravett

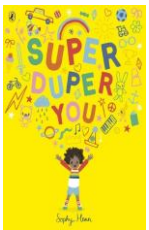
A lonely chameleon changes colour and shape as he tries to make friends with the things he meets. This playful picture book explores colours, shapes and the wish to belong.



The Family Book

Todd Parr

A cheerful look at families of many sizes and kinds, including families with one parent or two. Its bright illustrations show that every family has its own way of living and caring.



Super Duper You

Sophy Henn

A joyful rhyming celebration of the many sides of a child. We can be loud or quiet, brave or shy, and all those changing qualities make us who we are.

Year 1 Books



The Great Big Book of Families

Mary Hoffman · illustrated by Ros Asquith

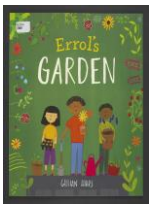
A lively look at the many ways families live. Children see different relatives, homes, celebrations, routines and traditions, and can recognise their own family among them.



The Rabbit Listened

Cori Doerrfeld

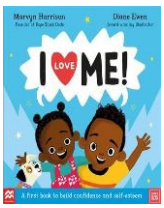
When Taylor's carefully built tower falls, the other animals offer advice. A rabbit simply sits and listens, giving Taylor room to feel upset and work out what is needed.



Errol's Garden

Gillian Hibbs

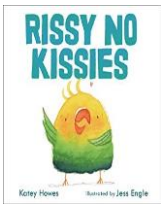
Errol loves growing plants, but his flat has little space. He and his neighbours turn a shared rooftop into a garden that everyone can enjoy.



I Love Me!

Marvyn Harrison · illustrated by Diane Ewen

A colourful book of positive affirmations. Children are encouraged to value themselves, notice their strengths and speak kindly about who they are.



Rissy No Kissies

Katey Howes · illustrated by Jess Engle

Rissy is a young lovebird who does not want kisses, even from people she loves. Her family learns that affection can be shown in ways that respect her wishes.



Bathe the Cat

Alice B. McGinty · illustrated by David Roberts

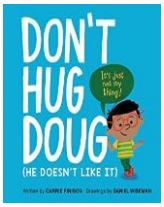
A family is getting ready for a visit, but their cat is determined to avoid a bath. A muddled chore list sets off a funny chain of mix-ups as everyone tries to help.



Don't Touch My Hair!

Sharee Miller

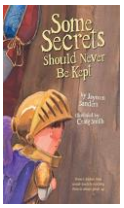
Aria loves her hair, but people keep reaching out to touch it. In a playful adventure, she shows why others should ask permission and respect her answer.



Don’t Hug Doug

Carrie Finison · illustrated by Daniel Wiseman

Doug likes his friends, but he does not like hugs. His story offers other ways to greet someone and encourages children to ask before hugging.

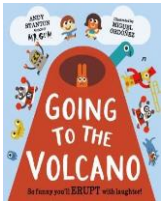


Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept

Jayneen Sanders · illustrated by Craig Smith

Sir Alfred is troubled by a secret about unsafe touch. The story encourages children to tell a trusted adult if something feels wrong or someone asks them to keep an unsafe secret.

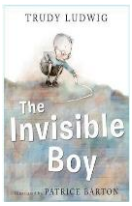
For parents: This book introduces unsafe touch and encourages children to speak to a trusted adult.



Going to the Volcano

Andy Stanton · illustrated by Miguel Ordóñez

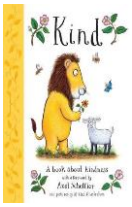
Dwayne and Jane set off to visit a volcano. Their increasingly silly journey is told in energetic rhyme, with plenty of surprises along the way.



The Invisible Boy

Trudy Ludwig · illustrated by Patrice Barton

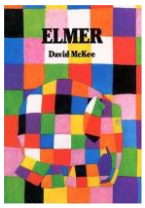
Brian often feels unnoticed at school. When a new classmate arrives, small acts of friendship help him take part and feel that he belongs.



Kind

Alison Green · pictures by many illustrators

A collection of small, practical acts of kindness, from sharing and helping to making newcomers feel welcome. Each page invites children to imagine a kinder world.



Elmer

David McKee

Elmer is a bright patchwork elephant in a herd of grey elephants. He wonders what it would be like to fit in, then discovers why his friends value him as he is.



The Lion Inside

Rachel Bright · illustrated by Jim Field

A small mouse wants to be heard and asks a lion to help him find his roar. Their meeting shows that courage can appear in unexpected places.

Year 2 Books



The Great Big Book of Families

Mary Hoffman · illustrated by Ros Asquith

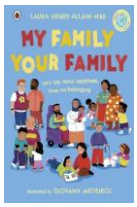
A lively look at the many ways families live. Children see different relatives, homes, celebrations and everyday routines, and can recognise their own family among them.



The Friendship Bench

Wendy Meddour · illustrated by Daniel Egnéus

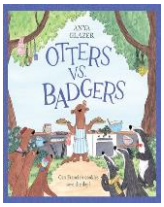
After moving and starting a new school, Tilly feels lonely. A friendship bench and a little imagination help her find a way to connect with another child.



My Family, Your Family

Laura Henry-Allain · illustrated by Giovana Medeiros

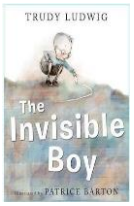
This illustrated non-fiction book asks what makes a family. It introduces many family structures and invites children to see what is unique about their own.



Otters vs Badgers

Anya Glazer

Otters and badgers live on opposite sides of a river and do not get along. When Francie the otter ventures into badger territory for a baking ingredient, an unexpected meeting challenges old assumptions.



The Invisible Boy

Trudy Ludwig · illustrated by Patrice Barton

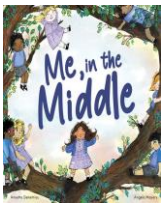
Brian often feels unnoticed at school. When a new classmate arrives, small acts of friendship help him take part and feel that he belongs.



Can I Join Your Club?

John Kelly · illustrated by Steph Laberis

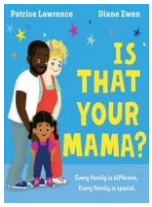
Duck tries to join several animal clubs but cannot meet their rules. He comes up with a more welcoming idea that lets different animals belong together.



Me, in the Middle

Annette Demetriou · illustrated by Angela Mayers

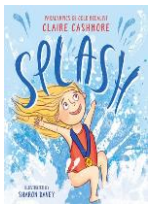
A class family-tree project makes Georgie wonder where she fits when her parents come from different places. With help from home, she begins to value her wide-ranging roots.



Is That Your Mama?

Patrice Lawrence · illustrated by Diane Ewen

Josie loves her family, although they do not all look alike. Repeated questions from other people leave her wondering what a family is supposed to look like, and she shares her worries at home.



Splash

Claire Cashmore · illustrated by Sharon Davey

Claire wants to keep up with her sisters but feels nervous about the swimming pool. Inspired by the author's childhood, the story follows her first steps towards enjoying the water.

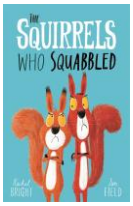


My Body! What I Say Goes!

Jayneen Sanders

An age-appropriate guide to body boundaries. It helps children notice unsafe feelings, understand safe and unsafe touch, say no, and tell trusted adults when they need help.

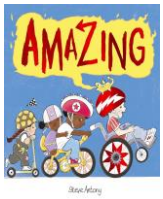
For parents: This book discusses private parts, unsafe touch and speaking to trusted adults.



The Squirrels Who Squabbled

Rachel Bright · illustrated by Jim Field

Two squirrels race to claim the last pine cone before winter. Their madcap chase becomes a funny lesson about sharing and working together.



Amazing

Steve Antony

A boy and his pet dragon, Zibbo, enjoy adventures together. The boy uses a wheelchair in the illustrations, while the story celebrates friendship, play and what makes each of them special.



One

Kathryn Otosh

Red bullies Blue while the other colours look on. When One speaks up, they find the courage to stand together and show that one voice can make a difference.

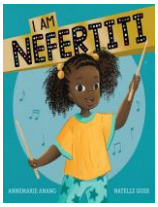
Year 3 Books



The Truth About Old People

Elina Ellis

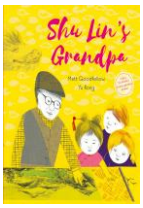
A child questions the idea that older people are all the same. The lively illustrations show grandparents and other older people enjoying many different interests and adventures.



I Am Nefertiti

Annemarie Anang · illustrated by Natelle Quek

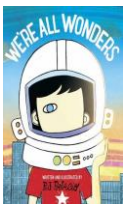
Nefertiti loves drumming with her class band, but a new teacher shortens her name. With support from her friends, she finds the confidence to show why her full name matters.



Shu Lin's Grandpa

Matt Goodfellow · illustrated by Yu Rong

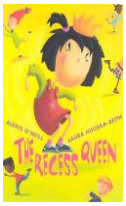
Shu Lin feels isolated at her new school. When her grandpa visits and shares his Chinese paintings, her classmates begin to see more of her world.



We're All Wonders

R. J. Palacio

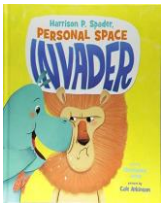
Auggie feels like any other child, but people sometimes stare at his face. He invites readers into his world and asks them to see the person behind an outward difference.



The Recess Queen

Alexis O'Neill · illustrated by Laura Huliska-Beith

Mean Jean rules the playground and decides who gets to play. A new pupil approaches her differently, opening up a story about kindness and changing playground habits.



Harrison P. Spader, Personal Space Invader

Christianne C. Jones · illustrated by Cale Atkinson

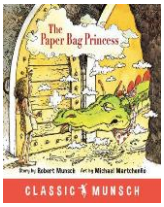
Harrison likes being close to people, but his hugs and high fives can be too much for them. He learns to notice and respect the space other people need.



This Is Our House

Michael Rosen · illustrated by Bob Graham

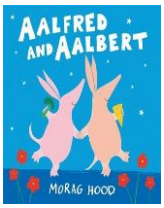
George claims a cardboard playhouse and keeps finding reasons to exclude other children. The playground story explores sharing and who gets to belong.



The Paper Bag Princess

Robert Munsch · illustrated by Michael Martchenko

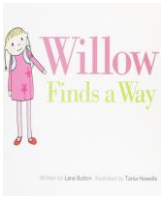
When a dragon carries off Prince Ronald, Elizabeth sets out to rescue him with only a paper bag to wear. Her quick thinking turns the familiar princess story on its head.



Aalfred and Aalbert

Morag Hood

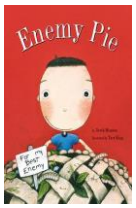
Two aardvarks live near each other but keep missing one another because they are awake at different times. A small bird tries to help them meet in this warm, funny story.



Willow Finds a Way

Lana Button · illustrated by Tania Howells

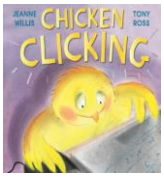
Willow watches a bossy classmate threaten to leave children out of a party. Though she is shy, she searches for a way to speak up for herself and her friends.



Enemy Pie

Derek Munson · illustrated by Tara Calahan King

A boy is sure his new neighbour is an enemy. His dad offers a mysterious recipe, but first the boy must spend a day getting to know him.

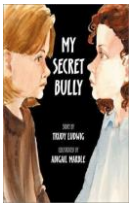


Chicken Clicking

Jeanne Willis · illustrated by Tony Ross

Chick discovers online shopping and then makes an online friend. Her adventure introduces the need to be careful about people met through a screen.

For parents: Online contact with strangers is a theme.

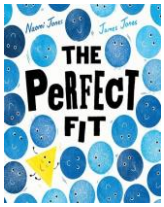


My Secret Bully

Trudy Ludwig · illustrated by Abigail Marble

Monica is hurt by a friend whose unkind behaviour is hard for others to see. The story helps children recognise this kind of bullying and seek support.

For parents: This book discusses bullying within a friendship.



The Perfect Fit

Naomi Jones · illustrated by James Jones

Triangle cannot roll with the circles or stack with the squares, so she looks for shapes like herself. Her search is a playful way to talk about friendship and belonging.

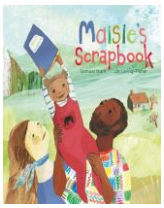
Year 4 Books



Webster's Friend

Hannah Whaley

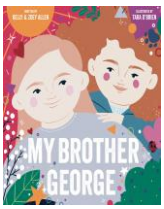
Webster makes a new friend online and tries hard to impress them. When the friend asks to meet, the rhyming story raises an important question about who can be behind a screen.



Maisie's Scrapbook

Samuel Narh · illustrated by Jo Loring-Fisher

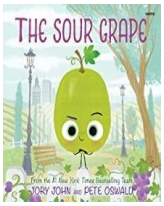
Maisie collects moments with her parents as the seasons change. Their backgrounds and interests differ, but the scrapbook shows the warmth and love they share.



My Brother George

Kelly and Zoey Allen · illustrated by Tara O'Brien

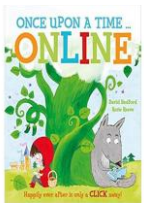
Molly loves George's jokes, adventures and the way he expresses himself. When other children tease him for his long hair and clips, his family stands beside him.



The Sour Grape

Jory John · illustrated by Pete Oswald

Sour Grape holds grudges over every small slight. A misunderstanding with a friend gives the grape a chance to think about forgiveness and listening to others.



Once Upon a Time… Online

David Bedford · illustrated by Rosie Reeve

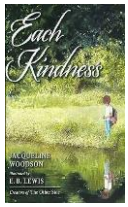
A laptop arrives in Fairy-tale Land, where familiar characters discover what it can do. Their adventures give a playful introduction to making safe choices online.



My Beautiful Voice

Joseph Coelho · illustrated by Allison Colpoys

A shy child writes a poem with encouragement from a caring teacher. The thought of sharing it aloud feels daunting, but poetry helps her discover her own voice.

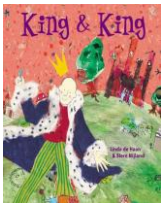


Each Kindness

Jacqueline Woodson · illustrated by E. B. Lewis

Chloe and her classmates repeatedly leave newcomer Maya out. When their teacher talks about the effect of small kindnesses, Chloe thinks about the friendship she missed.

For parents: The ending is reflective and does not offer a simple chance to make amends.



King and King

Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland

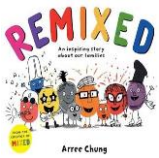
A queen hopes her son will marry, so she introduces him to princesses. The prince instead falls in love with another prince in this playful twist on a fairy tale.



My Two Grandads

Floella Benjamin · illustrated by Margaret Chamberlain

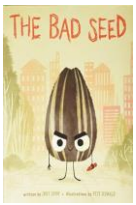
Aston loves both his grandads: one plays steel drums and the other plays trumpet in a brass band. When their musical traditions clash, he looks for a way to bring them together.



Remixed

Arree Chung

In Mixed City, colours form families of many shapes and combinations. When families change, the characters work through uncertainty and discover that love can continue in new forms.



The Bad Seed

Jory John · illustrated by Pete Oswald

A seed is known for bad manners and a bad temper. Behind that reputation is a difficult experience, and the seed begins to wonder whether it can choose a different path.

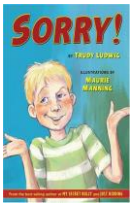


Troll Stinks!

Jeanne Willis · illustrated by Tony Ross

Billy Goat and Cyril use a borrowed phone to send mean messages to a troll they have never met. The story opens a conversation about hurtful online behaviour and assumptions.

Year 5 Books



Sorry!

Trudy Ludwig · illustrated by Maurie J. Manning

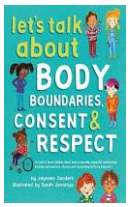
Charlie seems to escape trouble by saying sorry without meaning it. His friend Jack learns that a real apology calls for honesty and an effort to put things right.



On Sudden Hill

Linda Sarah · illustrated by Benji Davies

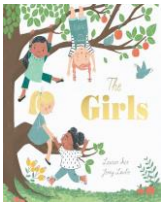
Birt and Etho love playing with cardboard boxes on Sudden Hill. When Shu wants to join them, Birt struggles with jealousy and the changes in their friendship.



Let’s Talk About Body Boundaries, Consent and Respect

Jayneen Sanders · illustrated by Sarah Jennings

Every person has a body boundary. Through familiar situations, this nonfiction book helps children ask permission, respect another person’s space and speak up about their own comfort.



The Girls

Lauren Ace · illustrated by Jenny Løvlie

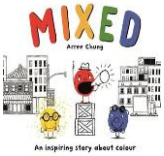
Four girls meet beneath an apple tree and grow along different paths. Their friendship continues through childhood and adulthood as they support one another through change.



The Boys

Lauren Ace · illustrated by Jenny Løvlie

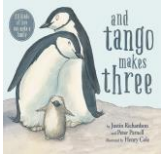
Four boys form a friendship by the sea. As they grow up, their interests and lives change, but they keep finding ways to be there for one another through joy and loss.



Mixed

Arree Chung

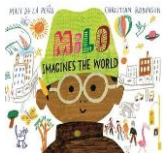
Reds, yellows and blues live apart, each convinced their colour is best. When Yellow and Blue fall in love, their community begins to see what can happen when colours mix.



And Tango Makes Three

Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell · illustrated by Henry Cole

Roy and Silo, two male penguins at Central Park Zoo, form a pair and care for an egg. Their family welcomes a chick named Tango in this story based on real penguins.



Milo Imagines the World

Matt de la Peña · illustrated by Christian Robinson

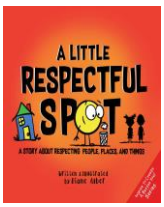
On a subway journey to visit his mother in prison, Milo sketches imagined lives for the people he sees. An encounter makes him question what appearances can tell us.



The Not-So-Friendly Friend

Christina Furnival · illustrated by Katie Dwyer

A child's new friendship turns hurtful and unpredictable. She learns to express how she feels, set clear boundaries and look for friendships that feel safe and kind.



A Little Respectful SPOT

Diane Alber

A little yellow SPOT shows what respect can look like in everyday life, from using polite words to caring for shared places, other people's belongings and personal space.



The Only Way Is Badger

Stella J Jones · illustrated by Carmen Saldaña

Badger insists that everyone should be like him and pushes away animals who are different. He must reconsider his rules and what it means to be a friend.



Everything Changes

Clare Helen Welsh · illustrated by Åsa Gilland

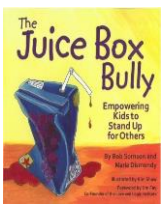
When a child's parents separate, familiar life feels as unsettled as stormy weather. The changing seasons offer a gentle way to talk about difficult feelings and hope.



Meesha Makes Friends

Tom Percival

Meesha loves making things but finds it hard to make friends. Her creativity helps her connect with another child and begin to find a comfortable way to join in.



The Juice Box Bully

Bob Sornson and Maria Dismondy · illustrated by Kim Shaw

Pete behaves unkindly at his new school. His classmates choose to get involved and explain their promise to stand up for one another instead of watching from the sidelines.

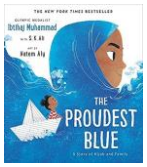
Year 6 Books



You're So Amazing!

James and Lucy Catchpole · illustrated by Karen George

Joe wants to play with his friends, but adults keep calling him "amazing" for ordinary things because of his limb difference. He would like people to see the whole child.



The Proudest Blue

Ibtihaj Muhammad with S. K. Ali · illustrated by Hatem Aly

Faizah watches her older sister Asiya wear her blue hijab to school for the first time. When others make unkind comments, family love helps the sisters hold on to their pride.



The Forgiveness Garden

Lauren Thompson · illustrated by Christy Hale

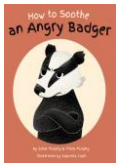
A boy from one village hurts a girl from another, rekindling an old feud. The girl chooses a different response and invites both communities to make a garden together.



The Real Boat

Marina Aromshtam · illustrated by Victoria Semykina

A little paper boat dreams of reaching the ocean and becoming a real boat. Its journey brings new friends, wonder and the risks of venturing beyond familiar waters.



How to Soothe an Angry Badger

Jules and Miles Murphy · illustrated by Gabriela Cadli

Dr. Happy tries to cheer up Giuseppe the badger. When her usual ideas do not help, he looks beneath his anger to sadness and disappointment, then considers how to put things right.



The Island

Armin Greder

A stranger washes ashore, and the islanders respond to him with fear and cruelty. This stark story of a refugee's exclusion has a bleak ending that invites careful discussion.



A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo

Marlon Bundo with Jill Twiss · illustrated by EG Keller

Marlon, a boy bunny, falls in love with another boy bunny. When someone says they cannot marry, their animal friends stand up for them and consider how decisions can be changed.



Consent (for Kids!)

Rachel Brian

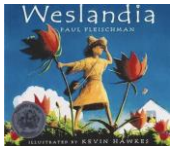
With comic illustrations and practical examples, this nonfiction book explains bodily autonomy, asking and giving permission, changing your mind and respecting other people's boundaries.



Saving the Butterfly

Helen Cooper · illustrated by Gill Smith

A brother and sister rescued from a boat try to build a new life as refugees. The boy settles more easily; helping a trapped butterfly gives his sister a first step outside.



Weslandia

Paul Fleischman · illustrated by Kevin Hawkes

Wesley feels out of place among his classmates. A mysterious plant inspires him to create a civilisation in his garden, with its own food, clothes and language. His imaginative world gradually draws other children in.