



Participant information sheet

Anti-racism in RSE: Teachers views

Approval has been granted for this study to be carried out between 27/03/2026 and 10/02/2027.

| Invitation Paragraph |

You have been invited to take part in a research study. Before participating, please read through the information in this document carefully, and feel free to contact the researchers involved if you have any questions or would like further details. Afterward, please take the time to consider whether or not you wish to participate in this study. Thank you for reading.

| What is the purpose of the study? |

This research project explores how secondary school teachers understand and deliver anti-racist approaches within Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). The aim is to identify current challenges, levels of confidence, and support needs among teachers when addressing race, racism, and culturally sensitive topics in RSE lessons. The research is a collaboration between the School of Sexuality Education, Nu Know Community CIC, and Brunel University. Findings will be used to inform future training, resources, and policy recommendations aimed at improving anti-racist practice within RSE delivery and may also be shared with academic audiences (via publications and conference presentations).

| Why have I been invited to participate? |

We are recruiting up to 50 secondary school teachers and leaders to participate in this study. Prospective participants should ensure they meet all the inclusion criteria below to take part.

Inclusion criteria:

- Participants must be currently employed as secondary school teachers or school leaders in England.
- Participants must be involved in the delivery or oversight of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in their school.
- Participants must be aged 18 or over.
- Able to access a device and internet connection to complete the online survey.

| Do I need to participate? |

All participants will be asked to complete a consent form before participating in this study. Participation is voluntary, and it is the participant's choice whether they would like to take part or not. Participants can skip any question they do not wish to answer or select 'prefer not to say' when this option is available. If you decide to participate, we encourage that you take a screenshot of this participant information page for your own reference. If you decide not to participate or to withdraw from the study, there will be no impact or adverse effect on you.

Once the research has begun, participants can choose to leave the study at any time without reason. Participants can also withdraw their data after the study until 31/10/2026 by contacting hello@nuknow.co.uk. No explanation is needed to withdraw from this study. After 31/10/2026, participants can no longer withdraw their data from the study. This is because the researcher will have deleted identifiable information before beginning data analysis by this date.

| Procedure of the study |

This study consists of an online survey (approximately 10 minutes to complete). You will first be shown a **consent form**. If you agree and are eligible to participate in this study, you will then be asked to complete a survey. These questions will address some personal characteristics (your age, gender, and religious beliefs) and your experiences in RSE (e.g., “How comfortable do you feel discussing race and racism with students in RSE lessons?”). You will then see a debrief letter, which you can keep a copy of at the end of the study.

| Remuneration |

Participants will not receive a payment for taking part in this survey.

| What are the possible advantages of participating? |

By taking part, you will have the opportunity to share your experiences and perspectives on teaching anti-racist RSE, helping to inform future practice, training, and resources for teachers. Your input will contribute to research that is designed to improve the quality and inclusivity of RSE in schools, potentially benefiting students and educators in the long term. Participation may also provide a reflective opportunity to consider your own teaching practice and approaches to addressing race, culture, and diversity in RSE.

| Are there any lifestyle restrictions? |

No

| What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part? – Further Support |

During this study, participants will be asked questions surrounding racism and anti-racism, topics that may be sensitive or uncomfortable to reflect on. Due to the topic's sensitivity, this research may make some participants feel uncomfortable or upset. If any problems relating to issues raised in the study arise, participants may wish to talk to somebody whom you trust and to contact the organisations below for further information:

- Education Support – A UK charity dedicated to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of teachers and education staff, offering a confidential 24/7 helpline, counselling and practical advice - <https://www.educationsupport.org.uk>
- Nu Know Community CIC – Offering free one-to-one guidance on topics related to adolescent development, including RSE and anti-racism support. - <https://nuknow.co.uk/free-sessions>

| What if something goes wrong? / Contact for complaints and questions |

If participants have any questions about the research, please contact Dr Natalie A. Russell (hello@nuknow.co.uk) or Dr. Lora Adair (lora.Adair@brunel.ac.uk) in the first instance. If participants have any concerns or complaints about their experience in this study, they may contact Professor Louise Mansfield, Chair of the College of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences Research Ethics Committee (louise.mansfield@brunel.ac.uk).

| Will my participation in this study be kept confidential? |

While we will take every precaution to keep your information private and anonymous, there are rare circumstances where confidentiality cannot be guaranteed:

- If a participant discloses information that suggests a child or vulnerable person may be at risk of harm, the research team is legally required to report this to the appropriate authorities in line with safeguarding procedures.
- If a participant reveals serious concerns about illegal activity in their professional setting, the research team may need to report this to relevant authorities.
- Any breach of confidentiality would be handled carefully and responsibly, and only the minimum necessary information would be shared to meet legal or safeguarding obligations.

If participants disclose anything that suggests that they or anyone else may be at risk of harm, the researcher will report this to safeguarding leads at School of Sexuality Education (Dolly Padalia), Nu Know Community CIC (Dr Natalie A. Russell) and Brunel University (Dr Lora Adair,) and the police if applicable. In all other cases, your responses will be kept anonymous, secure, and used only for the purposes of this research.

| Will I be recorded, and how will the recording be used? |

No. We will not be taking any audio and video recordings during this research survey. Only anonymised survey

data (your responses) will be kept after the study.

| What will happen to the results of the research study? |

Only anonymised survey data (your responses) will be kept after the study. All data collected in this study, will be stored securely by Nu Know Community CIC (via OneDrive) in line with data protection and retention policies. No names or identifiable information about participants or their schools will be retained. All anonymised data will be retained for a minimum of 10 years. Only anonymised datasets will be used for research purposes; data may be made available to other researchers (via OSF or Figshare) but you will be asked to provide consent for data sharing. No individual participants can be identified from any published materials or shared data. The findings from this study will be disseminated in academic outputs, including journal articles, conference presentations, and reports. Results may also be shared in community-facing outputs, such as blog posts or resources hosted by the School of Sexuality Education and Nu Know Community CIC, in ways that ensure participants remain anonymous.

| Who is organising and funding the research? |

This study has been funded by School of Sexuality Education and Nu Know Community CIC.

| What are the indemnity arrangements? |

School of Sexuality Education, Nu Know Community CIC and Brunel University London provides appropriate insurance cover for research, which has received ethical approval.

| Who has reviewed the study? |

This study has been reviewed by the College of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences Research Ethics Committee at Brunel University London.

| Research Integrity |

Brunel University London is committed to compliance with the Universities UK [Research Integrity Concordat](#). Participants are entitled to expect the highest level of integrity from the researchers during the course of this research.

Contact for general information, complaints, and questions

For general information

Natalie A. Russell: hello@nuknow.co.uk

Lora Adair: lora.adair@brunel.ac.uk

For complaints and questions

Professor Louise Mansfield, Chair of the College of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences Research Ethics Committee louise.mansfield@brunel.ac.uk