



The Village Federation of Carsington & Hopton and Kirk Ireton Primary Schools



Relationship & Sex Education Policy

Description of the Federation

Both Carsington & Hopton C of E School and Kirk Ireton C of E Primary School are very small rural primary schools for girls and boys aged 4 to 11. Children come from both single and dual parent families. There is a wide social mix and varied family backgrounds. Both schools have an active “Friends of School” and operates an open door policy. In all classes there are a children with special educational needs.

Introduction

Our approach to RSE goes beyond provision of biological information and focuses on clarifying attitudes and values, developing self-esteem and the skills to manage relationships.

Aims & Objectives

The overall aims of the RSE programme are:-

- to learn about the physical and emotional development;
- the way humans reproduce;
- respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed long term and loving relationship;
- the importance of family life;
- moral questions;
- relationship issues;
- respect for the views of other people;
- appropriate and inappropriate touch.

RSE is an entitlement for every pupil. It is delivered according to the planning cycle in a manner appropriate to the age and development of children through the PSHE programme, Science, circle time and other subject areas when and where appropriate. It is delivered as part of a whole school approach in partnership with all members of the school community. Needs are also addressed as and when issues arise.

Parent/Carer Involvement

The Federation is well aware that the primary role in children’s sex education lies with parents and carers. We always endeavour to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation.

To enable this we:-

- we inform parents about the school’s sex education policy and practice;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the sex education of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for sex education in the school;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the policy and making modifications to it as necessary.
- inform parents about the best practice known with regard to sex education, so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home and so ensuring that children receive consistent messages about their changing body and their increasing responsibilities.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex education programme that we teach in the Federation. If they make this choice it should be discussed with the Headteacher and make very clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. The school always complies with these wishes.

Governor Involvement

All governors are consulted about the RSE provision and are kept up to date at governors' meetings.

Teaching Methods and Resources

Active learning methods which involve children's full participation will be used.

Relationship and sex education takes place with mixed age and sex classes or single gender groups as deemed appropriate and relevant with the children's own class teacher.

- We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support the children with regard to health education. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority e.g. school nurse. This policy is made available to visiting professionals and all planning is produced jointly.
- Parents are invited in to school to preview resources which will be used in the lessons.

Dealing With Questions

- Teachers should establish clear parameters about what is appropriate and inappropriate in a whole class setting.
- Teachers should set the tone by speaking in a matter of fact way and ensuring the pupils discuss issues in a way which discourages giggling and silliness.
- Pupils should be encouraged to write down questions anonymously and post them in a question box. This enables teachers to reject inappropriate questions and prepare answers to all other questions.
- If a verbal question is too personal the teacher should remind the pupil of the ground rules.
- If a question is too explicit, feels too old for a pupil or inappropriate for the whole class it should be addressed later on an individual basis.

Pastoral Support

All members of staff are approachable to discuss sex and relationship issues with children. However if a child makes reference to being involved in or likely to be involved in sexual activity it will be dealt with in line with the Child Protection Policy.

Dealing with Bullying

Bullying commonly includes inappropriate and hurtful comments and behaviour concerning sexism, homophobia, appearance and other sex/relationship issues. The Federation takes the issue of bullying very seriously and this is reflected in the schools behaviour policy. Any such incidents will be fully investigated and dealt with in line with the Behaviour Policy.