

Sex Education Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 In this document, sex education is defined as 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. Sex education is part of the personal, social and health education curriculum in our school, which is age appropriate.

2 Aims and objectives

2.1 We teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- respect for their own bodies
- the importance of family life
- moral questions
- relationship issues
- respect for the views of other people
- that everyone has autonomy over their own bodies
- safeguarding and how to help keep themselves safe from harm

3 Context

3.1 While sex education in our school means that we give children information about how their bodies change as they approach puberty, we do this with an awareness of the moral code and values which underpin all our work in school. In particular, we teach sex education in the belief that:

- sex education is part of a wider social, personal, spiritual and moral education process;
- children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies;
- children should learn about their responsibilities to others
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect
- children need to learn the importance of self-control.

4 Organisation

4.1 We teach sex education through different aspects of the curriculum. While we carry out the main sex education teaching in our personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum, as this contributes significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body, and how it is changing and developing.

4.2 In PSHE we teach children about relationships, and we encourage children to discuss issues. We teach about the parts of the body and how these work, and we explain to them what will happen to their bodies during puberty.

4.3 By the end of Key Stage 2, we ensure that both boys and girls know how their bodies change during puberty, what menstruation is, and how it affects women. We always teach this with due regard for the emotional development of the children.

5 The role of parents

- 5.1** The school is well aware that the primary role in children's sex education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective we:
- inform parents about the school policy
 - 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 parent governors to be involved in reviewing the school policy and making modifications to it as necessary.

6 The role of other members of the community

- 6.1** We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to health education. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority, such as the school nurse and other health professionals, give us valuable support with our sex education programme.

7 Confidentiality

- 7.1** Teachers conduct sex education lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. There are always at least 2 members of staff present during these lessons. If a child makes a disclosure then the teacher will listen, follow the schools child protection procedures and then inform the Named Person immediately.

8 The role of the headteacher

- 8.1** It is the responsibility of the headteacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our sex education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the headteacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.
- 8.2** The school liaises with external agencies regarding the school sex education programme, and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework.
- 8.3** The school monitors this policy and reports to governors, when requested.

9 Monitoring and review

- 9.1** The School Improvement Committee of the governing body monitors our sex education policy as necessary. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The School Improvement Committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the sex education programme, and will record any comments.

Reviewed January 2018