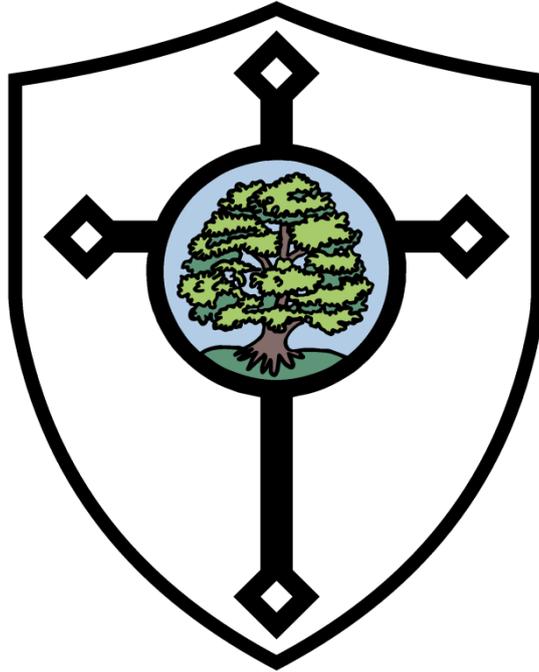


The New Forest C of E (VA) Primary School
at Landford, Nomansland & Hamptworth



**Sex and Relationships Education
Policy**

Adopted: November 2009

Last reviewed/approved: March 2018

Review: yearly

Status: statutory

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

The New Forest Church of England Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment. We have adopted the *'Fruits of the Spirit'* (Galatians 5:22) as our school values and expect these to be demonstrated by everyone in our school in accordance with our mission statement *'Growing and Learning Together through Christian Values'*.

1. Introduction

Sex education is learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage as a context for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health. Sex education is part of the personal, social and health education curriculum in our school.

In March 2017, the Department for Education published information regarding the teaching of PSHE and inclusion of sex and relationship education across both primary and secondary settings. See the website below for more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/schools-to-teach-21st-century-relationships-and-sex-education>

We will teach within a framework of Christian values and the Christian understanding that sex is a gift of God as part of creation. Whilst we use sex education to inform children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions. Sensitivity and respect should be shown to all children when teaching about personal relationships and SRE should be taught in a way to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home/personal circumstances.

2. Aims and objectives

We teach children about:

2.1. Gaining knowledge and understanding –

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- the main stages of the human life cycle;
- knowing how to keep themselves and others healthy and safe.

2.2. Developing positive attitudes and values –

- respect for their own bodies and the importance of a committed, long-term and loving relationship;
- the importance of marriage or other stable relationship and family life.

2.3. Extending personal and social skills –

- relationship issues;
- respect for the views of other people;
- participation in society.

3. Moral and values framework

In our school we focus on teaching SRE in the context of relationships using a variety of formal and informal opportunities and strategies. These are taught alongside the Christian ethos of the school with the emphasis being on family values. This all helps children to develop their self-esteem and emotional wellbeing and to form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships, which are based on respect for themselves and for others. SRE is an important part of a child's learning, focusing on healthy and safe relationships, being responsible and understanding their bodies.

4. The National Healthy School Standard (NHSS)

We participate in the NHSS scheme, which promotes health education. As participants in this scheme we:

- consult with parents on all matters of health education policy;
- listen to the views of the children in our school regarding health matters;
- look positively at any local initiatives that support us in providing the best PSHE teaching programme that we can devise.

5. Organisation

- 5.1.** Through planned lessons in the curriculum as well as through wider school activities such as collective worship children are able to develop their ideas, knowledge and skills gradually and appropriately.
- 5.2.** In the Science curriculum we teach about the parts of the body and how these work. Through Science lessons in both key stages, teachers inform children about growth and change. For this aspect of the school's teaching, we follow the guidance material in the national scheme of work for science. In Key Stage 1 we teach children about how animals, including humans, move, feed, grow and produce offspring. We also teach them about the main parts of the body and the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Children learn to appreciate the differences between people and how to show respect for each other. In Key Stage 2 we teach about life processes and the main stages of the human life cycle in greater depth. Children also learn about inheritance, adaptation and offspring.
- 5.3.** Through RE lessons in KS2, children learn about the commitment of people of faith to each other in marriage or other stable relationships. They will learn about the beliefs and values that underpin this commitment and support the nurture and care of children in the family.
- 5.4.** In PSHE we teach children about relationships and we encourage children to reflect upon and discuss a range of issues, including family life, growing up and taking responsibility to maintain positive relationships. We also teach children how to keep themselves safe through discussions about appropriate behaviour. Teachers do their best to answer all questions with sensitivity and care.

The SRE curriculum map is progressive and has been carefully planned in order to develop children's understanding and learning across each year.

By the end of KS1, children will have looked at ways in which their bodies have changed from when they were babies and the main differences between boys and girls.

In KS2 (Years 3 and 4) SRE units are taught from a Religious Education perspective and supported by the book 'Love and Relationships'.

By the end of Year 5, we ensure that both boys and girls know how their bodies change during puberty. We always teach this with due regard for the emotional development of the children, whether boys and girls are

together or separated for body changes sessions. We may liaise with the school nurse in order to support the learning in class.

By the end of Year 6, children will be taught about sexual intercourse, conception, stages of pregnancy and birth. We will use our PSHE scheme of work to form the basis of our teaching of this particular unit, supplementing lessons with materials that have been recommended by Wiltshire Diocese and Wiltshire's PSHE advisor. We are also using a DVD produced by Channel 4 called All About Us: Living and Growing. The scheme of work has been adapted to take into account our Christian values, with resources having been considered and chosen carefully according to the areas of learning that are being covered at each stage.

In summary resources used to support the teaching of SRE at KS2 are:

- Sex and Relationships – a series by A&C Black
- Cambridgeshire PSHE scheme
- Love and Sex Matters – Salisbury Diocese resource
- All About us – DVD produced by Channel 4
- School Nurse

5.5. Parents and carers of children in Years 5 and 6 are informed about this particular programme of lessons and how the objectives will be taught. A list of vocabulary being used will inform parents as to what each child will be taught in each year group.

6. The role of parents

6.1. The school respects that the primary role in children's sex education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supportive 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'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 work together with the school to support the child in their sex education. We believe that, through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information, children will benefit from being given consistent messages about their changing body and their increasing responsibilities.

6.2. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex education programme that we teach in our school. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education lessons, they should discuss this with the Head Teacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. The school always complies with the written wishes of parents in this regard.

7. The role of other members of the community.

We work with other valued members of the community 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, give us valuable support as available and help to ensure that our pupils receive an up to date and balanced programme.

8. Confidentiality

We make clear to pupils what our procedures are with regard to confidentiality. Teachers conduct sex education lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved in, or being

likely to be involved in, a sexual activity or indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse, then the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection (see Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy).

9. The role of the Head Teacher

9.1. It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our Sex and Relationships Education Policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Head Teacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient guidance so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

9.2. The Head Teacher liaises with external agencies regarding the school sex education programme and ensure that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy and that they work within this framework.

9.3. The Head Teacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

10. Monitoring and review

The Staffing and Curriculum Committee of the governing board monitors and reviews the Sex and Relationships Education Policy on an annual basis. The Committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing board, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The Committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the sex education programme and makes a record of all such comments. The Head Teacher liaises with the school nurse, and details of the content and delivery of sex education (body changes) can be given on request.

Related policies:

- Anti-bullying Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- PSHE and Citizenship Policy
- Religious Education Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Science Policy