

Sex & Relationships Education Policy 2019

The Department for Education (DfE) is publishing guidance preparing for statutory relationships education in primary schools and relationships and sex education (RSE) in secondary schools from September 2019.

This is to ensure universal coverage (including risks associated with growing up in a digital world) and improved quality of RSE, within the context of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education, across all schools. See www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-rse-and-pshe .

Introduction

Park View Primary School's Sex & Relationships Education Policy is based on the DFE guidance document Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (ref DfES 0116/2000).

What is SRE?

SRE as learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. The aim of SRE is to equip children and young people with the information, skills and values to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships, and to take responsibility for their sexual health and wellbeing.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of Sex Education in this school is to promote spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development of the pupils and to prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The Sex Education Programme will reflect, demonstrate and encourage the following values:

- respect for oneself;
- respect for others;
- responsibility for one's actions;
- responsibilities for their family, friends, school and the community.

Sex and relationship education has three main elements that we aim to teach:

- attitudes and values;
- personal and social skills;
- knowledge and understanding.

Context

SRE needs to start early in primary school so that children learn about their bodies, can recognise if other people make them feel uncomfortable or unsafe and can report abuse and get help. Lots of children start puberty before they leave primary school so it is important that all pupils know what to expect before it happens.

Sex Education will be taught in the context of understanding the importance of relationships and will be appropriate to the children's stage of development. The teaching staff will teach sex education with an awareness of the values that underpin our school.

- sex education should be taught in the context of a long-term, loving, respectful relationship or marriage and family life;
- 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, and be aware of the consequences of sexual activity;
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect;
- children need to learn the importance of self-control.

Agreed Procedure:

SRE is an integrated scheme of work starting in Year R building throughout Key Stage 1 and 2

- Parents give written permission for children to attend SRE lessons in Year 5 and 6 and have the right to withdraw children from the programme, in discussion with the headteacher.
- Children are taught in different groups to facilitate discussion and a sense of safety and confidentiality.
- Teacher's use 'Living and Growing' by Channel 4, and 'Your bits aren't nice' to promote hygiene
- Education about relationships and family life is also taught through PSHE
- The PSHE leader liaises with the Y5/6 teachers each year.
- The Headteacher is responsible for the effective implementation of this policy.

Children with special needs

Teaching and resources will be differentiated as appropriate to address the needs of these children in order for them to have full access to the content of sex and relationship education.

The Role of the Parents

The school wishes to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective, we will:

- answer any questions that parents may have about the sex education of their child;
- inform parents about the school's approach to sex education;
- support parents who ask for guidance on how to deal with these issues at home.

Parents will be invited to an information evening before the Year 6 Sex Education Programme takes place and will be able to view the material.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Sex Education Programme. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education lessons, they should discuss this with the headteacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in.

Child Protection and Confidentiality

Teachers conduct sex education lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, staff working with pupils cannot offer unconditional or absolute confidentiality. If information disclosed indicates that a pupil is at risk of harm, staff have an obligation to pass the information on to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) (ref. Child Protection Policy).

Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse.

The school's confidentiality statement is applicable with any issues that arise during SRE lessons.

Children are made aware of Helplines specifically for children, such as Childline.

SRE lessons are part of our planned PSHE programme. These support our duty to safeguard pupils.

The lessons enable pupils to:

- Know their rights to be protected and kept safe
- Understand potential dangers they could face
- Be encouraged to adopt safe and responsible practices and deal sensibly with risk
- Develop personal skills to protect themselves and others from unsafe influences and physical and emotional harm
- Know when and who to ask for help when needed

Particular issues covered include:

- Bullying, including cyber bullying (by text message, on social networking sites, and so on)
- Prejudice-based bullying
- Racist, disability, and homophobic and transphobic abuse
- Radicalisation and extremist behaviour
- Child sexual exploitation
- Sexting
- Substance misuse
- Particular issues affecting children including domestic violence, sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriages.

We have a duty to report to the DSL concerns about pupils who we feel are at risk of harm or when we suspect that FGM has already been performed.

Monitoring and evaluation

The head teacher and the Coordinator responsible for PSHE (including SRE) will ensure that:

- Staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities;
- The planned programme reflects national guidance, local priorities and pupils' needs;
- All pupils are being taught the programme as planned;
- The quality of teaching is consistently good across all classes

This will be monitored through effective PSHE leadership, with a system of lesson observations, samples of pupils' work, peer support, and regular review of the SRE policy.

Evaluation answers the questions:

- Has this lesson or unit enabled the pupils to learn what was intended?
- Does it meet the needs of the pupils?
- What do we think of it? (teachers and pupils)
- What are its good and bad points?
- Do we need to modify it in any way to improve it?

The evaluation of SRE at Park View Primary will answer the questions:☐

- Do children demonstrate in SRE lessons a respect for themselves and for the views of others?
- Are children comfortable in speaking to staff at the school about issues regarding their physical development and any concerns they have?
- Are parents satisfied with the nature of the SRE at the school?
- Do children develop positive relationships with one another at the school?

Rachel Fox

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