



# Sex & Relationships Education Policy

Governor Responsible	Management Committee
Status	<b>Statutory</b>
Reviewed	May 2017

This policy has been developed through consultation with parents, carers, teaching and non-teaching staff and Governors. It has been informed by the findings of the needs assessment carried out with pupils and parents.

It is the Governors responsibility to ensure that the policy is carried out effectively.

This policy ensures that staff and parents / carers are clear about the statutory requirements regarding SRE and that pupils receive their educational entitlement. It is therefore important that staff and visitors understand that they have a responsibility to implement this policy.

*In 2000, the Department for Education and Employment (DfEE, now DfE) published Sex and Relationship Education Guidance. Brook ([www.brook.org.uk](http://www.brook.org.uk)), the PSHE Association ([www.pshe-association.org.uk](http://www.pshe-association.org.uk)) and the Sex Education Forum ([www.sexeducationforum.org.uk](http://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk)) have worked together to produce advice for schools which supplements that guidance. This advice should be read alongside the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfEE 0116/2000) which is statutory guidance for schools: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sex-and-relationship-education>.*

## **Rationale**

The teaching of Sex & Relationships Education, using an integrated and consistent approach, is an important aspect of pupils' education, enabling them to make informed choices throughout their development.

Sex & Relationships Education includes planned opportunities to support the development of self-confidence and relationships, enabling pupils to participate harmoniously in the wider community.

We strive to support and promote the achievements and confidence of ALL pupils regardless of faith, ethnicity or family background . Celebrating everyone's success in a happy, creative environment where ALL differences are valued is a key aim of our school.

## **Aims**

The Department of Health set out its ambition for all children and young people to receive high quality sex and relationships education in the Sexual Health Improvement Framework (2013), while the Department for Education's paper The Importance of Teaching (2010) highlighted that 'Children need high quality sex and relationships education so they can make wise and informed choices'.

Sex & Relationships Education is a lifelong process involving the:

- Growth of knowledge
- Development of skills
- Exploration of attitudes

We encourage and support the partnership between home and school in helping children to cope with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up.

In doing this we take into account of the age, maturity and needs of the pupils. Sex & Relationships Education aims to:

- Help children develop feelings of self-respect, self-esteem, self-confidence, sympathy and empathy
- Support pupils to understand and express their feelings through providing appropriate vocabulary and communication skills
- Nurture a responsible attitude towards personal relationships including aspects of mutual respect and care
- Develop sensitivity towards the needs of others regardless of faith, ethnicity or family background
- Provide knowledge of loving relationships including same sex relationships
- Provide knowledge of human reproductive processes
- Inform on matters of personal hygiene and related health issues
- Encourage exploration of values and moral issues taking into account physical, emotional and moral risks associated with certain behaviour
- Provide information about agencies that can give support and information on health and related issues.

### **Organisation**

Sex & Relationships Education is co-ordinated by the PHSE Subject Leader and is delivered by class teachers with support from the Subject Leader and outside agencies as appropriate.

The scheme of work will be delivered in a variety of ways using a range of teaching and learning styles to support pupil participation and the development of skills, knowledge and attitudes. There may be times when single gender groupings are more appropriate. This will be at the discretion of the class teacher, who is most familiar with their class' needs.

## Implementation

Implementation of the Sex & Relationships Education Policy is via:

- Christopher Winter Project Scheme of work (from Nursery to Year 6)
- Discussions, stories and videos (a 'question box' will be available to ask questions anonymously in some activities)
- National Curriculum Science Orders
- Assemblies / PSHE curriculum

As Sex & Relationships Education incorporates the development of self esteem and relationships, pupils' learning does not only take place through the taught curriculum. It occurs through ALL aspects of school life, including:

- Opportunities for social interaction & development (classroom / playground / dining hall / extra-curricular activities / school visits)
- Quality of feedback given to pupils on their pastoral and academic achievements

Pupils cannot be withdrawn from any teaching that is part of the National Curriculum. Parents can withdraw their child from elements of Sex & Relationships Education that falls outside of this. Any parent wanting to withdraw their child should discuss this with the Headteacher and / or Governors.

## Harassment and Bullying

Pupils come from a variety of different backgrounds including different family set up and are entitled to learn in a supportive environment, free from fear. Some pupils may use terms associated with sexuality as a way to harass other pupils including homophobic, transphobic and biphobic language. This is unacceptable and will be dealt with as any as a form of harassment and bullying

All staff strongly oppose to discrimination and harassment of any kind, including homophobia, transphobia or biphobia. These incidents are dealt with and monitored in accordance with our Behaviour and Equal Opportunities Policies.

An understanding of human difference is an important aspect of education and will be given priority in school.

## Assessment

The Sex & Relationships Education scheme of work has been developed to include learning objectives and assessment opportunities to enable the teacher to make judgements about pupils' learning and progress.

## Monitoring and Evaluating the Policy

The school wide community will be consulted about the implementation of the policy to see how it is supporting, informing and meeting the needs of the pupils. One method of evaluation used is the Annual Parents' Questionnaire (Summer Term).

## **Confidentiality and Child Protection**

Whilst encouraging a trusting relationship between staff and pupils, it is important to remember that complete confidentiality cannot be offered. Should there be any concerns about what an individual may say, the member of staff will make a judgement based on knowledge of that child and their circumstances. Following this, discussion of concerns may take place with the Head/Deputy Headteacher / SENCO (designated members of staff with Child Protection responsibility).

## **Answering Difficult Questions**

If a child asks a difficult question, the adult will use their professional judgement in deciding how to answer it. This may be through class discussion, individual discussion or encouraging the child to talk to his / her parent.

## **Related School Policies**

PHSE Policy  
Science Policy  
Behaviour Policy  
Anti-Bullying Policy  
Equal Opportunities Policy  
Child Protection Policy

## **Glossary**

*homosexual* - This term describes someone who has an emotional, romantic and/or sexual orientation towards someone of the same gender. The term 'gay' however is more generally used.

*homophobia* is the dislike or prejudice of gay people

*bisexual* - Refers to a person who has an emotional, romantic and/or sexual orientation towards people of more than one gender

*biphobia* is the dislike or prejudice of bisexuals

*trans* - an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

*transphobia* is the dislike or prejudice of trans people