

Policy for Sex and Relationship Education

At All Saints CE Primary we value the importance of sex and relationship education to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. The education which we provide will be linked closely to that of Personal, Social and Health Education, in this as in every aspect of policy and practice we would seek to be guided by our school ethos and the general Christian approach which governs our management of the school.

We recognise the partnership of home and school, of parent and teacher, in this important area of personal development.

Sex education is a continuing, developmental process, which includes the exploration of attitudes and values and the development of skills, as well as the presentation of factual knowledge. As with all other learning, it should be gradual and matched to the child's maturity and stage of development.

Sex education teaches children to develop an awareness of, and respect for, themselves and others. It aids the development of positive self-esteem, which will help children to cope with the challenges of personal growth. It enables children to be aware of the personal choices they can make and prepares them to make responsible decisions. It is about exploring feelings and emotions and enjoying confidence in one's own ability. Woven with this will be the moral code in which we seek to empower the children as with the recognition of imperfection and the need to give and receive forgiveness. The high importance of personal relationships in life is something which we seek to stress within our school family life and teaching by both precept and example will be given in all areas of the school's life.

As part of the sex and relationship education framework, pupils are taught about the nature and importance of family life and bringing up children. Pupils will learn about the significance of marriage and stable relationships. Care is taken that no child is stigmatised because of his or her home circumstances.

What is Sex and Relationship Education?

Sex and relationship education is about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

Sex and relationship education has three main elements.

1. Attitudes and values:
 - learning the importance of values and moral considerations
 - learning the value of family life, marriage and stable relationships
 - learning the value of love, respect and care.

2. Personal and social skills:
 - learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
 - developing empathy and self-respect
 - learning to make choices without prejudice
 - appreciating the consequences of choices made
 - managing conflict
 - recognising and avoiding exploitation and abuse.

3. Knowledge and understanding:
 - learning about and understanding physical development
 - understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships.

The Philosophy of the School

It is the philosophy of All Saints CE Primary that all children experience a planned programme of sex and relationship education that offers them the opportunity to explore attitudes and values, and develop personal and social skills, as well as learning the facts necessary for life.

Aims and Objectives of the Policy

- To reassure children of their value and self-worth, including aspects of dignity, self-respect and self-restraint.
- To nurture a responsible attitude towards personal relationships, such as aspects of mutual respect and care, and to develop sensitivity towards the needs of others encompassing fidelity and loyalty.
- To foster the ability to manage relationships in a responsible and healthy manner.
- To promote the value of loving relationships and of family life.
- To recognise that marriage is an important, but not exclusive, context for family life.
- To provide knowledge of human reproductive processes.
- To inform children on matters of personal hygiene and related health issues.
- To encourage exploration of values and moral issues, taking into account the physical and moral risks associated with certain behaviour.
- To educate against discrimination and prejudice.
- To empower children to make informed choices about their developing sexuality.

This policy supports the following School Policies.

- Equal Opportunities
- Education for Ethnic Diversity
- School Discipline
- Statement of School Philosophy, Aims and Objectives
- Health, Safety and Welfare
- Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship
- Child Protection.

Areas of Responsibility

Governors

- To ensure the legal framework is followed.
- To implement the sex and relationship education policy through the Head Teacher.
- To implement the 'annual' reviews.
- To make, and keep up to date, a separate written statement of the school's policy with regard to Sex Education.
- To make copies of this statement available for inspection by parents of pupils registered at the school and provide a copy free of charge to any parent who requests one.
- To include a summary of the content and organisation of sex education in the School Prospectus.

Head Teacher

- To implement the Sex and Relationship Education Policy.
- To ensure the policy is followed.
- To liaise with the Governors on the teaching in school.
- To liaise with parents.
- To ensure the policy is reviewed annually.
- To disseminate information to staff.
- To respond to individual problems experienced by children, enlisting external agency support if appropriate.

Class Teacher

- To prepare long- and short-term plans to include Sex and Relationship Education in the Curriculum.
- To ensure the correct resources are available.
- To respond to the individual needs of children, giving relevant support should a child be experiencing difficulties.

School Nurse/Health Service Specialists

- To give support throughout the school, when appropriate.
- To take separate lessons as requested by the school.

The Special Needs Co-ordinator

- To assist in the development of the school's policy concerning the welfare and educational needs of all children at All Saints CE Primary.
- To take advice from all appropriate sources and, where necessary, adapt the policy to meet each individual child's needs.

Policy, Formation and Consultation Process

The policy has been written following the DfES guidelines *Sex and Relationship Education Guidance* 0166/2000.

A group of Governors agreed a draft policy in consultation with the headteacher. The draft policy was presented to the teachers for their views. Parents or guardians were consulted and given the opportunity to ask questions of the teachers, Governors and others within the community involved with sex and relationship education. The full Governing Body finally will then agree the policy.

Equal Opportunities

In support of the Equal Opportunities Policy, all All Saints CE Primary pupils, regardless of age, ability, gender or race, have the same opportunity to benefit from the sex education resources and teaching methods.

Organisation of School Sex and Relationship Education

Who Will Teach It?

All classteachers will teach sex and relationship education as part of the Science and PSCHE. There will be specific lessons for physical changes, conception and birth for Year 6 over a three week period. Other members of staff, including the School Nurse might be involved in these lessons.

Methodology and Approach

There will be a whole-school approach – from Reception to Year 6. The subject will be taught in a cross-curricular way, encompassing all the elements within Personal, Social and Health Education topics, as well as expanding on human relationships, human and physical development and reproduction, sexuality and the risks of sexual activity.

Dealing with Sensitive Issues

Governors and teachers are in agreement that teachers should answer all children's questions relating to sex and relationship education in an open and factual way, taking into consideration the family background, culture, religious beliefs, and pupils' differing experiences. The Governors expect teachers to use their professional judgement and discretion when faced with, or answering, questions, which they deem to be of a sensitive nature, for example homosexuality, contraception or sexually transmitted diseases.

The following ground rules have been established.

- Teachers should not enter into discussions about personal issues and lifestyles.
- No one (child or adult) has to answer a personal question.
- Nobody is forced to take part in discussion.
- In discussion, teachers will promote the knowledge and use of 'accepted' names of body parts.
- Meanings of words are explained in a sensible and factual way.

All Saints CE Primary Sex and Relationship Education Sex and relationship education is delivered within the Science Curriculum and the four broad themes within PSCHE:

Increasing confidence and responsibility and making the most of pupils' abilities.

Preparing to play an active role as citizens.

Embracing a healthier lifestyle.

Developing good relationships and respecting differences between people.

Through sex and relationship education, the children should:

develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships

be able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work

be able to protect themselves and ask for help and support

be prepared for puberty.

Within the Science Curriculum, the children should:

Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1:

know that all creatures, including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce

recognise the main external parts of their bodies

know that humans and animals can produce offspring, which grow into adults

recognise the similarities and differences between themselves and others, and treat others with sensitivity

Key Stage 2:

know that the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction

know about the main stages of the human life cycle.

*Parents should be aware that children cannot be withdrawn from these Science lessons.

Content for Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and 2

At All Saints CE Primary, the Scheme of Work for sex and relationship education is taught under the following headings. Progression and continuity are built into the programme from Reception to Year 6.

Relationships	
1. Myself as an individual	Loving, caring and supportive relationships and family life Exploring and expressing feelings and emotions Who cares for me? Secrets Promoting self-image
2. Myself and my friends	Friends and friendships Keeping safe

Date: June 2013

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