

Bearpark Primary School



Relationships and Sex Education Policy

UNCRC Article 28: Children have the right to an education

Policy Adopted: February 2019

Review Date: February 2021

Head Teacher: Mrs J Clements

Chair of Governors: Mr J Teasdale

Policy Written by: Miss E Jobson

Bearpark Primary School
Policy for Relationships and Sex Education

Rationale and Ethos

The purpose of relationship and sex education within Bearpark Primary School is to educate and prepare our pupils with the essential knowledge required for modern life; not only within our school at the present, but in any environment or situation the pupils may experience at some point in their future.

We define 'Relationships and Sex Education' as:

"...A lifelong learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships and sexual health. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes." (Sex Education Forum).

The intended outcomes of our programme are that pupils will:

- Recognise the physical, emotional and moral implications – and also the risks – of certain types of behaviour
- Appreciate the value of stable family life, marriage and the responsibilities of parenthood, and the need to behave responsibly
- Understand their personal responsibilities for their own bodies and actions
- Accept variation in rates of growth and development
- Communicate any unwanted invasions of body and body space
- Be aware of sources of help, and acquire the skills and confidence to use them.
- Understand that they have the right to say what happens to their body.

Roles and Responsibilities

As a school, we should:

- Ensure that staff teaching PSHE education receive subject specific training and regular updates, including in the teaching of sensitive issues
- Ensure the delivery age-appropriate sex and relationships education that meets pupils' needs and contributes to safeguard them from inappropriate sexual behaviours and sexual exploitation

- Implement systems to effectively track pupils' progress in PSHE education and monitor pupils' engagement in extra-curricular activities that develop their personal and social skills
- Raise teachers' expectations of the quality of pupils' work in PSHE education to ensure it is commensurate with expectations of pupils' work in other subjects
- Have good quality leadership and management in PSHE education which ensures that subject leaders receive appropriate leadership training and time to monitor and evaluate the quality of teaching and learning in PSHE education.

Safe and Effective Practice

Aims and Objectives for 'Healthy Relationships' (Sex and Relationship Education)

The aim of SRE is to provide children with age appropriate information, explore attitudes and values and develop skills in order to empower them and to make positive decisions about their health related behaviour. This should take place with consideration of the qualities of relationships within families.

The objectives of Sex and Relationship Education are:

- To provide the knowledge and information to which all pupils are entitled
- To clarify/reinforce existing knowledge
- To raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others;
- To help pupils understand their sexual feelings and behaviour, so they can lead fulfilling and enjoyable lives;
- To help pupils develop skills (language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) and make the most of their abilities.
- To help pupils understand that we are all equal regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or transgender identity
- To provide the confidence to be participating members of society and to value themselves and others;
- To help gain access to information and support
- To develop skills for a healthier safer lifestyle
- To develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media
- To respect and care for their bodies
- To be prepared for puberty and adulthood
- To prepare pupils with awareness of sources of help and acquire the skills and confidence to use them.

Legislation (Statutory Regulations and Guidance)

All schools must teach the following as part of the National Curriculum Science Orders, parents **do not** have the right to withdraw their child/children.

National Curriculum Science Key Stage 1

1. b) That animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.

2. a) To recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans.
 - f) That humans and animals can reproduce offspring and these grow into adults.
3. a) To recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others and treat others with sensitivity.

National Curriculum Science Key Stage 2

1. a) That the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction.
2. f) About the main stages of the human life cycle.

Every child is entitled to receive SRE regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, age, culture, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, language, special educational needs, disadvantaged and looked after status.

It is our intention all children have the opportunity to experience a programme of SRE at a level which is appropriate for their age and physical development with differentiated provision if required. Such a programme can successfully follow the outline given below;

Key Stage 2

In science children build on their knowledge of life cycles and learn about the basic biology of human reproduction including birth of a baby in years 5 & 6. Children are taught about the physical, emotional and social changes at puberty, which include personal hygiene. In RE and Citizenship, they continue to develop an understanding of relationships within a family, between friends and the community and that there are different patterns of friendship. They will develop skills needed to form relationships and to respect other people's emotions, choices and feelings. They will consider how to make simple choices and exercise some basic techniques for resisting pressures. Sex and relationship education should focus on the development of skills and attitudes not just the acquisition of knowledge.

Curriculum Design

The organisation of SRE is the responsibility of Mrs Clements and Miss Jobson. Sex and relationship education is delivered through Science, RE, PSHE, Citizenship, English activities, and our Educate and Celebrate programme is to be taught across the whole curriculum. Sex and relationship education is taught by classroom teachers, teaching assistants and if appropriate, outside visitors such as the School Nurse. A range of teaching methods which involve children's full participation are used to teach sex and relationship education. These include use of video, discussion, looking at case studies, drama and role-play. Sex and relationship education is usually delivered in mixed gender groups. However; there may be occasions where single gender groups are more appropriate and relevant.

Safeguarding and Issues

Parental consultation

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from those aspects of sex and relationship education **not included** in the National Curriculum Science Orders, where alternative work

would be set. However, this rarely happens, as by working in partnership with parents they recognise the importance of this aspect of their child's education and personal development.

Child Protection / Confidentiality

Teachers need to be aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue. The staff member will inform Mrs Clements or Miss Hutton who are the Designated Safeguarding teachers; in line with the LEA procedures for child protection. A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist. (See our Child Protection / Safeguarding Policy)

Links with other policies

This policy is linked with the following policies:

- Equality, Diversity and Cohesion
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Behaviour
- Anti-Bullying

Use of Visitors

“Visitors should complement but never substitute or replace planned provision. It is the PSHE co-ordinator's and teacher's responsibility to plan the curriculum and lessons.”

Sex and Relationship Guidance DfE 0116/2000 P 29 6.11

When appropriate, visitors such as the school nurse may be involved in the delivery of sex and relationship education, particularly in upper Key Stage 2.

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.

Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

Monitoring is the responsibility of the Headteacher, named Governor and Teacher with responsibility for sex and relationship education. The school will assess the effectiveness of the aims, content and methods in promoting students' learning by lesson observation, sampling teachers planning, questionnaires to teachers and children and feedback from parents. The effectiveness of the SRE programme will be evaluated by assessing children's learning and implementing change if required.

As part of effective RSE provision, this policy will be reviewed every two years to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of pupils, staff and parents and that it is in line with current Department of Education advice and guidance. The policy will therefore be reviewed in **February 2021** by the **Headteacher and Chair of Governors** to ensure correct and up to date practice is being carried out.

This policy will be available on the school website and in a paper copy if requested at the main office. We are committed to working with parents and carers to ensure that they are fully aware of what is being taught and to provide additional resources and support as and when needed. All staff are aware of the policy and teachings on RSE and, if needed, parents can approach a member of staff to enquire further into it. As above, Parents have the right to withdraw their children from those aspects of sex and relationship education **not included** in the National Curriculum Science Orders, where alternative work would be set. Governors will be informed of the RSE policy and curriculum through governor and staff meetings. Pupil voice will be used to review and tailor our RSE programme to match the different needs of pupils through our school council and pupil voice surveys.

Adopted on: February 2019

To be reviewed: February 2021