



Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Sex and Relationships Education is an important dimension of a child's statutory entitlement. All schools are required to provide Sex and Relationship Education through the National Curriculum (Education Act 1996). It is recommended that schools provide Sex and Relationship Education as part of PSHE (Sex and Relationship Education Guidance DfES 0116/2000).

Rationale

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is an umbrella term for all the teaching and learning we offer pupils to understand their own and others' sexuality, to develop skills for relationships and informed decision making. At Radley CE Primary School we believe that sex and relationships education is the entitlement of each child and we are committed to deliver it within the context of a broad and balanced programme of health education. SRE will be delivered within a framework which reflects underlying attitudes and values including:

- respect and sensitivity
- recognition and acceptance of difference
- responsibility for one's actions
- the ability to make moral judgements and choices
- honesty and loyalty in relationships

This policy is part of our overall approach to health and well-being. Through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, circle time and our school ethos we aim to enable our children to make the right choices for themselves and their families now and in the future. The policy for SRE sits alongside policies for PSHE, Equality and Social Inclusion and Safeguarding. This policy also reflects the statutory guidance within the Department for Education 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'.

Aims

In our school we aim through implicit and explicit learning experiences to:

- Ensure that sex and relationships education is integrated into the curriculum and not isolated, taken out of context or over-emphasised in any way
- Foster self-esteem and respect for others as the cornerstone of good health education and good sex and relationships education
- Nurture a partnership between caring adults - governors, teachers, ancillary staff and parents - to ensure sensitive support for children and young people as they grow and mature
- Ensure children have the ability to accept their own and others' sexuality
- Encourage children to enjoy relationships based upon mutual trust and respect, free from any abuse
- Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on sexual matters can take place without embarrassment
- Adopt a whole school approach to sex and relationships education

Teaching and Learning

Effective teaching of SRE will increase pupils' knowledge of:

- The human body, growth and development;
- Families, parenting and life cycles;
- Safety and child protection;
- Supportive agencies e.g. Childline
- Sexual identity.

It will also enable pupils to:

- Improve their self-esteem;
- Make informed choices and decisions;
- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility;
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others;
- Maintain and develop relationships;
- Develop self-confidence;
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations;
- Develop the motivation to succeed.

Sex and Relationship Education will be taught by teachers within the school, with sessions delivered by the school nurse about puberty when the children are in Year 5 and in Year 6. Children will normally be taught in mixed gender classes so they grow up being aware, respectful and sensitive to other's differences. However children will have opportunities for single sex question and answer sessions. In teaching SRE a variety of resources are used, including video material, worksheets, visits from the school health nurse and books. However, we emphasise the importance of discussion and questioning within the safe, secure and non-judgmental atmosphere of the class with its teacher. The atmosphere of trust, mutual acceptance and confidentiality is built on the PSHE programme.

Within the taught and hidden curriculum, i.e. the whole school environment, pupils are given frequent and regular opportunities to work on feelings and to practise personal and interpersonal skills. We value and respect the learning that occurs in the community and in the home believing that these, alongside school links, are essential dimensions of SRE.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from receiving sex education from a PSHE perspective at school, and should discuss this with their child's class teacher. However, elements of the Sex and Relationships Education programme which are part of the Science curriculum are statutory and children may not be withdrawn, these are Life processes and living things; Life processes common to humans and other animals including growth and reproduction and the main stages of the human life cycle.

Equal Opportunities

Sessions are planned to meet the needs of both boys and girls, children with SEN, children who are most-able, children with disabilities, children from all social backgrounds, children of different ethnic groups and children from diverse linguistic backgrounds. Staff are sensitive to the needs of the children and their families and endeavour to prevent stereotyping that may promote sexism, racism and homophobia. For further information, see the school's Anti-Bullying and Equality and Social Inclusion policies.

Assessment

Assessment for learning is an integral part of our teaching. Children should be asked to share their level of understanding. The elements of SRE that form part of the Science curriculum are assessed in accordance with the requirements of the National Curriculum 2014.

Monitoring

The headteacher monitors planning and assessment as part of a rolling programme. This policy document is available on request to the entire school community, and a copy of the policy can be found on the school website.

Further Information

For information on safeguarding and confidentiality see OCC guidance and school policies. Our School Health Nurse continues to offer support and guidance on any health issues, including sex education.

Date of policy: March 2017

Date for review: March 2020