



Sex Education and Relationship Policy

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Date:	

1. Policy

Sex Education and Relationships encourages an ideal focus for home-school co-operation and collaboration within the school community. Due consideration is given within the planning of Sex Education and Relationships to the aims of the school, parental wishes and any particular religious and cultural factors.

The syllabus, which incorporates Sex Education and Relationships into a Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship framework, is carefully planned in consultation with parents, teachers and governors through in-service training and advisory meetings.

Whenever changes are planned, parents will be informed in advance and consulted on the programme and materials/resources to be used. Within the programme, facts are presented in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner, appropriate to the age and maturity of the children, and set within a clear framework of the value of stable family life, the responsibilities of parenthood and an awareness of the law on sexual behaviour.

2. Aims

The aims of the Sex Education and Relationships within PSHE and Citizenship are:

- To prepare pupils to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up and to gain an elementary understanding of human reproduction within the context of all living creatures (Living things and their habitats and Animals, including humans) and sexual health.
- To enable children to act responsibly in making and maintaining relationships with others, to feel good about themselves and the choices they make, and to develop assertiveness skills.
- To encourage children to appreciate the importance of respect and dignity for themselves and others, in the context of their own sexual development, while taking account of sexuality, gender, roles and responsibilities.
- To develop sensitivity and tolerance towards the needs and views of others.
- To acknowledge that some children come from backgrounds which do not reflect such values and experiences and remain sensitive to their needs.

- To recognise that one of the greatest difficulties that children face in today's technological world is that of the conflicting beliefs and values that develop from the constant stream of images of sex, sexuality and relationships as depicted in the media. Together with informal sexual education they receive in their everyday lives and that this is often complicated by misinformation learned from friends, and myths perpetuated by adults whose own sexual knowledge can be as inadequate as the child's.

3. Content

Sex Education and Relationships follows 'Living and Growing' units of work, developed by Channel 4 Learning, together with compulsory National Curriculum Science programmes across the primary range (Living things and their habitats and Animals including humans). The 'Living and Growing' units follow a developmental process beginning in the early years and involve:

- Giving information and knowledge
- Challenging beliefs
- Forming positive attitudes and values
- Developing sexual identity
- Promoting the necessary skills for effective communication, loving, caring, and happy relationships, and positive behaviour.

Two units of 'Living and Growing' are used: Unit 2 for 7 to 9 year olds and Unit 3 for 9 to 11 year olds, to create a whole school framework for sex education.

National Curriculum	'Living and Growing'
<p><u>Year 5</u></p> <p>Moving and Growing (Sc2: 1a, 2c, 2e)</p>	<p><u>Unit 2</u></p> <p>Programme 1: Changes Exploring physical and emotional changes that take place at the onset of puberty, and how we feel about ourselves.</p> <p>Programme 2: How babies Are Made Examining the whole process of life cycles and reproduction, rites of passage, friendships and feelings.</p> <p>Programme 3: How Babies Are Born Reviews relationships and feelings and investigates roles and responsibilities.</p>
National Curriculum	'Living and Growing'
<p><u>Year 6</u></p> <p>Life Processes: The Human Body (Sc 2: 1a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 5f)</p>	<p><u>Unit 2</u> Elements of Unit 2 may be reviewed.</p> <p><u>Unit 3</u></p> <p>Programme 1 – Girl Talk Reviews the physical and emotional changes that take place for girls at the onset of puberty.</p> <p>Programme 2 – Boy Talk Reviews the physical and emotional changes that take place for boys at the onset of puberty.</p> <p>Programme 3 – Let's Talk About Sex Examines the development of relationships, the images of sex created by the media and popular culture, and marriage.</p>

4. Organisation

The Headteacher and staff will be responsible for the planning and delivery of the sex education programme within the context of the national curriculum, either as a part of a specific programme or incidentally, as appropriate in response to questions.

Teachers will answer children's questions honestly and sensitively, again taking account of the age and maturity of the child. It may be inappropriate to answer some questions in class; such questions will be answered on a one-to-one basis.

Questions will be answered sensitively and professionally on a whole class, small group or individual basis as appropriate. Any very controversial issues will only be discussed after taking advice from the headteacher or other appropriate person.

The teacher has the right not to answer inappropriate questions. If during the course of the programme, a child's questions cause such concern that a teacher believes the child to be distressed or in danger, these may be referred to the child protection liaison officer. Parents will be consulted if it is felt appropriate and not detrimental to the well-being of the pupil.

5. Right of Withdrawal

The majority of the programme is specified in the National Curriculum and is thereby compulsory. However, parents will be informed in advance of any additional content to this and invited to a preview of any materials/resources to be used. Any parent who has concerns or questions related to this is asked to discuss them with the headteacher/class teacher, and, should they wish to do so, may exercise their right to withdraw their child/ren from parts that are outside the National Curriculum. Any child withdrawn after these discussions will be catered for in other classes with appropriate work and activities for the duration of the specific sex education units.