

WEXHAM COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL
Sex and Relationship Education Policy
2018 - 2021



Date Approved: Autumn 2018

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Responsibility: Pupil Support & Transforming Learning Committee
& Head Teacher

Approved By: Pupil Support & Transforming Learning Committee

WEXHAM COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Introduction

Sex and relationship education (SRE) will reflect the values of the PSHE and Citizenship programme. SRE is taught in the context of relationships, responsibilities and growth. In addition SRE will promote self-esteem and emotional health and well-being and help the children form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships, based on respect for themselves and for others, at home, school, work and in the community.

At Wexham Court Primary School, we aim to provide a holistic education for all children. Every pupil will receive their full entitlement to SRE regardless of their educational ability, gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity or faith. We aim to support children in their emotional, cultural and social, as well as academic development.

Definition

According to the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfE 0116/2000, SRE is *'lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of loving and caring relationships.'*

Aims

Contributing to the foundation of PSHE, the school's SRE programme aims to 'explore attitudes and values with children about growth, responsibility, relationships, emotions, self-esteem and personal safety.' Children will develop skills in order to make positive decisions about their health related behaviour. During SRE children will 'develop personal and social skills and a positive attitude to growing up'.

Objectives

The school aims to provide an age-appropriate SRE programme emphasising the social and emotional aspects of relationships, the changes due to growth and the growing responsibilities attached to this.

Education about relationships **for 3-7 year olds** will focus on the building of self-esteem and confidence by encouraging learners to:

- respect, value and care for themselves and others,
- value recognise and communicate their feelings,
- form friendships and relationships,
- respect boundaries – their own and other peoples,
- growth and responsibilities.

SRE will teach **7-11 year olds** to understand:

- the range of their own and others' feelings and emotions,
- the importance of personal safety and what to do or to whom to go when feeling unsafe,
- to develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the social media,
- to be prepared for puberty and adulthood, including physical and emotional changes that take place at puberty, including conception, pregnancy and birth,
- accepting responsibility for themselves and others.

Implementation

Sex and Relationship Education is delivered through science, RE, PSHE, citizenship, and 'circle time'. A planned and co-ordinated approach to each subject can provide an appropriate framework for SRE to take place providing pupils with a consistent message.

SRE is taught by classroom teachers, teaching assistants and if appropriate, outside visitors such as the school nurse. A range of teaching methods 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.

The minimum statutory requirement for SRE is that schools must deliver the **National Curriculum for Science** to all children within school:

Key Stage 1

- Animals, including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.
- Children should name and recognise the main external parts of the human body.
- That humans can produce offspring and these grow into adults.
- Children should recognise similarities.

Key Stage 2

- That the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction.
- The main stages of the human life cycle, including puberty.

Dealing with difficult topics / questions

All teachers are aware of the ground rules which provide an agreed structure to answering sensitive or difficult questions. Teachers will endeavour to answer questions as honestly as possible but if faced with a question they do not feel comfortable answering within the classroom, provision would be made to meet the individual child's needs.

- **'Silly questions'** Children are testing boundaries and have no interest in the answer. In this case, teachers will not answer questions, and explain that they are inappropriate.
- **'Concerning questions'** these could possibly be indicative of safeguarding issues. In this case, teachers will follow the school safeguarding procedures.
- **'Genuine questions'** the child has a genuine but age inappropriate question. In this case, the child's question will be acknowledged, with a promise to return to it later. The class teacher will then consult with the child's parents, and discuss if they would like to answer, or they want school to answer, in the case of the latter, it will be discussed with parents how much information they are happy for their child to have.

Parental Consultation

The Sex and Relationship Education policy is shared on the school website and full details are available on request. The school informs parents when aspects of the sex and relationship programme are taught and will be given an outline of the lessons in advance so they are able to make an informed decision.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the sex and relationship education part of the PSHE programme and alternative arrangements will be made for their children's supervision. The request to withdraw must be made in writing to the Head Teacher. However, parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction necessary under national curriculum science.

Safeguarding / 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. Equally that it may be a very difficult and personal subject for some pupils.

- The staff member will inform the Head Teacher or Ranvir Chahal and follow the schools child protection policy.
- Ask the Designated Child Protection lead if there are any concerns when teaching SRE in regards to puberty and reproduction.
- A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.

Monitoring, Assessing and Reviewing

To ensure that the policy is adhered to and is effective, it will be monitored, reviewed and evaluated regularly. The school will assess the effectiveness of the aims, content and methods in promoting pupils' 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.

Links with other policies

This policy is linked with the following policies:

- PSHE & Citizenship
- Equal Opportunities
- Safeguarding
- E-Safeguarding
- Confidentiality
- Behaviour
- Anti-Bullying
- Science

Objectives and targets

The aim of having a sex and relationship education policy is to clarify the provision of sex and relationship education to all pupils (including education about HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases) and the teaching of human growth and reproduction as set out in the national curriculum.

Our target is that pupils will achieve a clear understanding of the arguments for delaying sexual activity and resisting pressure. We aim to link sex and relationship education with issues of peer

pressure and other risk-taking behaviour, such as drugs, smoking and alcohol, and to ensure that our pupils understand how the law applies to sexual relationships.

Action plan

Sex education is carried out principally within the personal, social and health education (PSHE) programme and according to current legislation. Materials and speakers are carefully chosen, appropriate to the needs and ages of our students and according to the national curriculum. Sex education is taught within the context of relationships and family life. The governing board considers, in liaison with the Head Teacher, how children may be taught about safeguarding, including on-line, through teaching and learning opportunities. Parents are informed of the programme and are welcome to view materials used in sex education or to discuss further with the class teacher. Parents are told of their right to withdraw their son or daughter from this programme. Alternative arrangements will be made for these pupils.

Our PSHE programme provides knowledge about the processes of reproduction and human growth as part of the national curriculum in science. All pupils must follow this programme. The PSHE programme deals with the nature of sexuality and relationships. It encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes that allow pupils to manage their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner and provides them with parenting skills for later in life. The programme is carefully structured and shows continuity between the years. The programme is delivered within a moral framework. As well as knowledge and information, pupils are encouraged to consider the importance of the following values, which are derived from the schools' value system.

We aim to develop attitudes and values through:

- Promoting respect, value, love and care of themselves and others including respect for individual and cultural differences.
- Developing understanding and promoting sensitivity towards the needs and views of others and modelling appropriate behaviours.
- Discussing moral issues including concepts associated with right and wrong; encouraging responsibility for their own actions and promoting positive self-images.
- Exploring responsibility to the school, their family and the wider community.
- An open minded approach to SRE.

We aim to develop personal and social skills through:

- Learning how to share and co-operate with others.

- Experiencing being part of a community within the class, the school and the wider community, enjoying the benefits, and learning to accept the responsibilities this brings.
- Enabling pupils to express preferences, communicate needs, make decisions, choose options that other people act upon and respect.
- Supporting pupils in learning to understand appropriate and inappropriate behaviours and manage their own behaviour and emotions.
- Enabling pupils to make choices and deal with the consequences that these may bring.
- Enabling pupils to make choices based on an understanding/acceptance of differences and absence of prejudice.
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others.
- Developing self-awareness and self-esteem.
- Developing skills to manage potential conflict and upset.
- Learning how to assert oneself appropriately and safeguarding to avoid abusive exploitation.
- Know that as we grow so do our responsibilities.

We aim to develop knowledge and understanding through:

- Developing body awareness and physical control.
- Developing an understanding of their ability to influence the environment.
- Developing a knowledge of gender, growth and development.
- Learning when privacy is appropriate and how to protect one's own privacy.
- Promoting a positive attitude to body changes around puberty and developing the skills needed to cope with them.
- Developing an understanding of physical feelings, including physiological responses to touch.
- Developing an understanding of own and others' sexuality, sex health, emotions and relationships.
- Learning about healthy lifestyles.

As part of our sex education programme, issues of contraception, HIV/AIDS, sexuality, unwanted pregnancies and abortion will be addressed. Facts are presented in an objective and balanced way, with pupils being encouraged to consider their attitudes and values. They will be made aware of the differences between fact, opinion, and cultural and religious beliefs.

Our methods of teaching include presentations and small group discussion, visiting speakers, the use of worksheets, videos and textbooks.

Our teachers are aware that effective sex and relationship education may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue and will rely on the school's child protection policy to handle any such matter as confidentially as possible.

Monitoring and evaluation

It is the responsibility of each Head of Year to ensure that staff have had sufficient training to undertake this programme and that each class is completing the programme. Pupil and parent surveys are used to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme from the pupils' and parents' points of view.

Reviewing

The governing board will review this policy regularly in the light of any changes to the national curriculum or to legislation and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Mr J. Reekie, Chair of Governors

Signed:

Date:

Miss N Mehat Head Teacher

Signed:

Date:

Review date: October 2021