

Pilgrims' Way Primary School

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

This policy has been developed by a task group representative of the school community and agreed by the whole staff in October, 2017

Rationale

The governors and staff of Pilgrims' Way Primary, in accordance with the legal requirements of the 1996 Education Act and Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfEE 0116/2000), consider that open, accurate and informative sex and relationship education (SRE) is the entitlement of all pupils. Through implementation of this policy the school will meet specific aspects of the legal and statutory requirements.

At Pilgrims' Way we believe that SRE is required to be taught within a framework that gives due regard to moral considerations, the value of family life and different cultural and religious backgrounds. Children will learn about moral values through all aspects of school life and all curriculum areas, not just SRE. We aim to:

- help pupils develop sensitivity and respect for themselves and others and to recognise and appreciate our similarities and differences
- take responsibility for their actions and the consequences of their actions
- provide equality of opportunity for all children in a caring community in which each individual is encouraged to make a valuable contribution.

Content

Sex and Relationship Education is an integral part of the National Curriculum Science orders. Throughout the school, from key stage 1, pupils should be taught:

- that humans move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce; the explanation of reproduction using explicit vocabulary
- to name the external parts of the body including the sexual parts
- that humans grow from babies into children and then into adults
- to recognise the physical similarities and differences between themselves and other pupils
- to understand about personal safety and appropriate behaviour
- to appreciate ways in which people learn to live together
- to recognise that there are different types of family structure, and to be able to describe their role within the family
- to understand the importance of valuing oneself and others
- to begin to recognise the range of human emotions and ways to deal with these.

At KS2 pupils should be made aware of the following:

- that there are life processes common to all animals
- the main stages of the human life cycle
- the human reproductive system, revisited through a spiral curriculum
- to know about and have some understanding of the physical, emotional and social changes that take place in puberty
- to understand how changes in puberty affect the body in relation to hygiene
- to recognise some of the skills required for parenting
- to know that there are different patterns of friendship
- to appreciate that within any environment there are people with different attitudes, beliefs and values and that these influence people's relationships.

Teaching Methods and Organisation

Effective education in this area will take place within a safe environment mainly in science lessons, PSHE and circle time, where pupils are supported and respected in their discussion time. There will be a variety of teaching methods, including discussion, group work, DVDs, websites, focused activities and the use of appropriate resources. We aim to give pupils equal access to the PSHE curriculum, which may include the use of single gender group discussions where appropriate. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all staff in the school. The PSHCE co-ordinator, in consultation with the Science co-ordinator will monitor and review. Class teachers will deliver the taught curriculum, either independently or with the support of recognised accredited professionals from external agencies. Aspects of SRE may be addressed in other curriculum areas such as RE, Science and Literacy.

Parents' Right of Withdrawal

The teaching within the Science National Curriculum is biological, and is concerned with human reproduction. Parents cannot withdraw their child from this work. However, at Pilgrims' Way we believe in looking at SRE within a moral framework. Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from this part of the curriculum. Whenever possible, parents and carers will be informed when pupils are taking part in this work and opportunities will be available to discuss concerns.

Confidentiality

A trusting relationship between pupils and staff is an important aspect of effective SRE; however it is important for pupils to understand that staff cannot necessarily maintain absolute confidentiality. Any concerns staff may have should be discussed immediately with the Headteacher. The school is legally required to refer concerns regarding child protection issues, including sexual abuse, to other agencies such as social services. If there is a disclosure, the procedures followed are outlined in the child protection policy. External agencies are aware of our policies and abide by them.

Answering difficult questions

All teachers are encouraged to use a “question and answer” box where pupils can ask questions anonymously. This also allows staff time to prepare suitable responses. If a child asks an explicit or difficult question, staff will answer appropriately in accordance with SRE learning intentions. Teachers will suggest that questions raised outside these guidelines should be discussed with an adult at home or someone whom the child trusts.

Assessment/Recording/Reporting

Teachers will have a scheme of work to support the delivery of SRE across the school. It will provide clear learning objectives. Assessment and recording should be informal as there is no statutory requirement for end of key stage assessments at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2. Staff may decide themselves on the most appropriate methods of assessing and recording in order to provide the information they require to report to parents at the end of the year.

Resources

Resource packs of materials such as books, DVDs, SEAL, pamphlets and artifacts on PSHE and SRE available to each year groups. Parents willing to bring their babies in to school are also a valuable resource.

Organisation

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all staff in the school. The PSHCE co-ordinator, in consultation with the Science co-ordinator, will monitor and review. Class teachers will deliver the taught curriculum, either independently or with the support of recognised accredited professionals from external agencies.

Appendix A

The policy ensures the school is meeting the following statutory requirements:

- The Education Reform Act 1988 (The school must provide a broad and balanced curriculum to prepare pupils for adult life.)
- The Education (Schools) Act 1992 (Provides for the inspection of schools by the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED). The inspection must comment on the provision of health education including the sex and relationship education policy and pupil support and guidance, amongst a range of other aspects of school life.)
- The Education Act 1996
- The National Curriculum Handbook KS1 & 2 (1999)

The policy is informed by the following guidance documents

- Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfEE 0116/2000)
- Child protection and schools (DfEE 11/95)
- National Healthy School Status, A Guide for Schools (DoH 2005)
- Personal, social and health education and citizenship at KS 1 and 2 (QCA 2000)

Appendix B

See attached Pilgrims Way SRE scheme of work.

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