

St James C of E Junior School

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Date of Policy: April 2018

Review date: April 2021

Rationale

Sex and Relationships education helps children to understand the different kinds of relationships we have in everyday life. Much of the concern regarding sex education in the primary phase arises from the narrow interpretation of it, a belief that it is simply about teaching the facts relating to reproduction.

In its widest sense, sex education explores what is most intimate in our relationships, our values and attitudes from childhood to parenthood. SRE focuses on the way we interact with family, friends and others such as professionals. Our school recognises the need to help young people move confidently through the stages of development involved in this and to learn to respect themselves and others as they do so.

Effective sex and relationships education (SRE) is essential if young people are to make responsible, informed and healthy decisions about their lives, both now and in the future. (DfEE 2000, Sex and Relationships Guidance). This is the most up to date DFE guidance

Aims

Our school aims to provide opportunities to all children to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to lead confident, healthy, independent lives.

In our teaching we aim to include:

Attitudes and values

- Learning about the values of family life and stable relationships.
- Learning the value of respect, love and care.
- Exploring, understanding and giving thought to moral dilemmas.
- Developing thinking as part of decision making

Personal and social skills

- Learning to be sensitive towards emotions and relationships
- Develop self- respect and empathy for others.
- Learning to make choices based on understanding of differences, without prejudice.
- Providing opportunities for young people to develop the ability to understand consequences linked to their decisions and actions.

Knowledge and understanding

- Informing about healthy, safer lifestyles
- Understand the stages of physical development
- Understand emotions, relationships and reproduction.

These will be taught with reference to the Christian values of the school.

Organisation and delivery

Sex and relationships education will be taught every other year to mixed Y5/6 group if parallel class structure, usually in mixed gender groups by the class teacher or Higher level teaching assistant. Occasionally, suitably qualified visitors from outside school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of SRE in school.

The programme has been built up from a number of different sources.

They include:

- SEAL
- The Workington & District Head teachers, Sex and Relationships programme
- The PSHE non-statutory framework
- BBC Active 'Growing Up'
- Twinkl

Teachers will answer questions appropriately and using their professional judgement, in line with this policy. There is no expectation that any teacher in school who is delivering SRE will automatically answer pupil questions as this may infringe personal boundaries. In this instance children will be encouraged to talk to their parents.

Staff are aware that views around SRE are varied. However while personal views are respected, all SRE issues are taught without bias. Areas covered are presented so children are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect others who may have a different view.

The programme will be monitored as an ongoing process by both teaching staff and pupils.

Inclusion

There may be occasions when different teaching arrangements or a modified curriculum has to be put in place for children with specific special needs. This will be considered by class teachers if the need arises.

Parental rights

Parents/carers will be informed about the SRE curriculum through the half termly curriculum newsletter. They have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex and relationships education provided at school, and/or have the right to view the resources before the work begins.



Those parents/carers are invited to see the Headteacher who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal might have on the child.

Child protection

Effective SRE may bring about disclosures of child protection issues and staff should be aware of the procedures for reporting their concerns. The school has updated its Child Protection procedures in relation to the Local Safeguarding Children's board guidance. Information relating to this can be found on the LSCB website: www.cumbrialscb.com

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Safeguarding Policy.

Policy agreed and adopted by the governors

Signed: Chair of Governors PPW COMMITTEE		Date: 11/03/2019
Signed: Headteacher		Date: 11/3/19
Date for review:	Date: April 2021	