



BUSBRIDGE CE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Sex and Relationship Education Policy (SRE)

This policy was updated in the autumn term 2014
It will be reviewed in the autumn term 2017

What is Sex and Relationship Education?

'Sex and Relationship Education is a lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity - this would be inappropriate teaching.' (DCSF July 2000)

Purpose of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE)

The Sex and Relationships Education within Busbridge Junior School aims to provide opportunities for pupils to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and become informed and active citizens. It provides an understanding that positive, caring environments are essential for the development of a good self-image and that each individual is responsible for his or her own body.

We have based our schools sex and relationship education policy on the DCSF guidance.

Objectives

The SRE programme at Busbridge Junior School reflects the school ethos and promotes the following values in pupils:

- skills for successful relationships with others, involving trust and respect
- confidence and self-esteem;
- respect for their own bodies

- the ability to make informed choices and minimise risk, through a knowledge of healthier and safer lifestyles
- a moral code that will guide the choices they make
- an understanding of the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long term and loving relationship.

Organisation

Sex and Relationships Education is not taught in isolation, it is rooted in the PSHE and Citizenship programme and the Science curriculum. We also teach some sex education through other subject areas, where we feel that they contribute significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body, and how it is changing and developing.

By the end of key stage 2, we ensure that both boys and girls know how babies are born, how their bodies change during puberty, what menstruation is and how it affects women. We always teach this with due regard for gender and emotional development of the children, encouraging discussion.

In the spring term of Year 5, we place a particular emphasis on health education, including menstruation, as many children begin to experience puberty at this age. The programme of study is delivered in mixed gender groups. We arrange a meeting for all parents and carers of the children in Year 5 to discuss this particular programme of lessons and how they are taught, and to see the materials the school uses in its teaching.

In the spring term of Year 6 we focus on how babies are made; starting at the act of intercourse and ending with the birth of a child. However, children are advised that sex is not practised solely for reproduction, and the role of contraceptives is briefly mentioned. During one session, it is acknowledged that two individuals of the same gender can have a loving relationship, although the sexual aspects of such gay relationships are not discussed. Children are advised that the use of inappropriate language to describe such relationships may be construed as bullying. The programme of study is generally delivered in mixed gender groups although single sex groups may be used. The children are given an opportunity to ask anonymous questions. We arrange a meeting for all parents and carers of the children in Year 6 to discuss this particular programme of lessons and how they are taught, and to see the materials the school uses in its teaching.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct Sex and Relationships Education lessons in a sensitive manner, in confidence. It is the responsibility of Busbridge Junior school to support its pupils but no individual should guarantee a child absolute confidentiality.

Child Sex Abuse Procedure - Staff will use their discretion to inform the DSL (the designated child protection officer) and share 'confidences' if they are seen as a concern for the safety and welfare of the child.

Under the 2014 "Keeping Children Safe" statutory guidance for schools "staff have a responsibility to identify children who may be in need of extra help or who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm. All staff then have a responsibility to take appropriate action, working with other services as needed."

Monitoring and review

The Curriculum Committee of the governing body monitors our sex education policy on an annual basis. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The Curriculum Committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the Sex and Relationship Education programme, and makes a record of all such comments. Governors require the Headteacher to keep a written record, giving details of the content and delivery of the sex education programme that we teach in our school.

Equal opportunities

At Busbridge Junior School we aim to provide a comprehensive, well-planned programme of sex and relationships education for all children and we recognise the need to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds. Equal time and provision will be allocated for all groups but there may be occasions where children with Special Educational Needs are given extra support.

See Special Educational Needs policy for further details.

At Busbridge we are committed to working with parents towards being a healthy school. We acknowledge that under section 405 of the Education Act 1996, parents

have the right to withdraw their children from lessons on Sex and Relationship Education and provision must be made for those children:

"...if any parent or pupil...requests that s/he may be wholly or partly excused from receiving sex education at the school, the pupils shall, except in so far as the education is comprised in The National Curriculum, be so excused accordingly until the request is withdrawn."

Content of lessons

The SRE programme is delivered in a way which gives pupils as many opportunities as possible to reflect on what they have been taught. Children are given the opportunity to participate in role play and decision making exercises, circle time, games and paired and group discussion.

Assessment

Teachers make informal assessments throughout the programme which affect the content and delivery of teaching. Pupils are given opportunities to reflect and evaluate on their learning as part of the SRE provision.

Answering difficult questions

Teachers should establish with pupils a set of ground rules which set the parameters for discussion.

Staff are aware that views around SRE related issues are varied. While personal views are respected, all SRE issues are taught without bias. Pupils are exposed to a variety of views and beliefs so that they are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect others that may have a different opinion.

Both formal and informal SRE arising from pupils' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil(s) concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the DSL if they are concerned.

Busbridge Junior School believes that SRE should meet the needs of all pupils regardless of their developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support.

The class teacher will answer questions raised during discussion at the time, if appropriate and relevant.

Resources

Channel 4 All About Us - Living and Growing DVD

Year 5

Unit 1

Programme 1 Differences

Programme 2 How did I get here?

Programme 3 Growing up

Unit 2

Programme 4 Changes

Year 6

Unit 2

Programme 5 How babies are made

Programme 6 How babies are born

UNIT 3

Programme 7 Girl talk

Programme 8 Boy talk

Programme 9 Let's talk about sex.