

SPARSHOLT C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy for Sex and Relationship Education

Section 1 : Why have a policy?

This policy describes the principles and organisation of sex and relationships education at Sparsholt Primary School. We welcome further constructive comments from parents. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from sex and relationships education if they wish, and parents considering this option are encouraged to make an appointment with the head teacher to discuss.

Section 2 : Definition – What is Sex and Relationship Education?

"Sex and relationship education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships and sex." Sex Education Forum 2014. In Sparsholt Primary School it will reflect Christian values in a modern setting and it will lay a foundation for more education at secondary school. Our Core Values: Courage, Compassion and Creativity are at the heart of our Sex and Relationships Education.

It has three main elements and is an integral element of a broader developmental personal, social, health and economic education programme:

a. Attitudes and Values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience
- learning the value of family life
- learning about stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children
- learning the values of respect, love and care
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas
- learning about British Values

b. Personal and Social Skills

- develop self respect and empathy for others
- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- managing conflict
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

c. Knowledge and Understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
- understanding human sexuality and the process of reproduction
- develop confidence about their bodies and the changes it will undergo
- develop a context for sexual information to which children may be exposed in the media

Section 3 : Principles

The Governors of Sparsholt Primary School have approved the teaching of sex education within the full curriculum according to the following principles:-

- a. Sex and relationship education at home and at school are complementary and therefore parents will be fully involved in the programme for sex and relationship education.
- b. Sex and relationship education is part of personal, social and health education (PSHE) and is taught developmentally by each teacher. The programme will be approached with sensitivity and understanding. The relationship between teachers and pupils is fundamental and will offer a supportive environment in which pupils can develop.
- c. The general ethos of the programme will be based on our Christian core values. The concepts of loving relationships and family life (including the extended family) are valued. We also promote the British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs at an age appropriate level.

Section 4 : Organisation

- a. The planning, implementation and review of sex and relationship education are co-ordinated by the Head Teacher and Class Teachers in consultation with and the Science Manager.
- b. Issues relevant to sex and relationship education will be discussed at all stages of the children's schooling, giving responses appropriate to the age and maturity of the children.
- c. Children in years 5 and 6 will participate in a specific sex and relationships education programme. The programme will cover the Year 5 Science Programme of Study 'All Living Things and their Habitats' and 'Animals, including Humans'. The unit will be completed in the Summer Term. The unit will always be pitched at the appropriate level for the pupils in that particular cohort.
- d. The principal teaching resource for the sex and relationships education will be the Channel 4 DVD series 'Living and growing'.
- e. The course will be delivered by the class teacher. If a need for staff training is identified, the Head Teacher will ensure that the need is met.
- f. Question and answer sessions will occur which will be conducted in single sex groups where appropriate. A 'question box' will be used, which will allow the children to put written questions anonymously. This also allows the teacher some discretion in choosing which questions to answer.
- g. Information will be given to parents of children in years 5 and 6 before the programme begins, which will give an opportunity for finding out more about the materials used.
- h. If children miss the lessons due to absence from school, parents will be offered the DVD pack for use at home, and suitable support will be offered to parents who request it.

- i. Children who miss the lessons because parents have requested withdrawal from the programme will be supported according to the wish of the parents. Parents are encouraged to discuss their needs with the Head Teacher.

Section 5 : Specific issues

Our stance on specific issues is best described as neutral. If asked, we will give a brief factual response that is appropriate to the age of our children. The staff reserve the right not to answer questions or engage in discussion which they feel is inappropriate to the primary phase.

Contraception

This is not discussed in any detail in this course. If questions occur, the importance of contraceptives as a means of preventing unwanted pregnancy and disease will be briefly explained.

Sex and Relationships

The importance of a stable and loving relationship as the basis for a sexual relationship and for the nurture of children will be emphasised. The fact that not all such relationships and families are based on marriage, and that some may be same-sex relationships, will be acknowledged.

Child protection

During Sex and Relationships Education the staff will be mindful of Child Protection issues. If disclosures occur, they will be considered in the light of the Child Protection Policy and due confidentiality will be observed. A copy of the C.P. policy is available from the school's office.

Equal Opportunities & SEND

Children will be taught the Sex and Relationship Education programme in accordance with the school's equal opportunities and SEND policies

Inclusion and Diversity

We recognise that our pupils come from a variety of family situations and home and cultural backgrounds. We shall take care to ensure that our inclusive approach will embrace different family types and incorporate a sensitive consideration of sexual orientation and sexual identity.

Section 6 : Monitoring of sex and relationships education

It is a requirement that the school monitors its sex and relationships education. This will take place in four ways.

- a. The Head Teacher will review with the Class Teacher the delivery of the programme annually.
- b. A sample of pupils in years 5 and 6 will be asked to review the programme after it has been completed.
- c. Parents are encouraged to make comments to the class teacher or the Head teacher regarding the programme.

Policy management information

Original Policy Written and agreed by working party : April 24th 2006

Reviewed by staff : February 2010

Readopted by CC governors : March 2010

Reviewed and readopted by CC governors: May 2018

Appendix :-

At all Key Stages pupils will be taught knowledge, skills and understanding through opportunities to:

- Take responsibility and feel positive about themselves
- Participate
- Ask for help
- Prepare for change
- Make real choices
- Meet and work with people and develop relationships
- Consider some simple moral and social dilemmas arising from different aspects of life

Objectives drawn from the National Curriculum Science programmes of Study

Year One

- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

Year Two

- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.
- Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food, air).
- Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

Year 5

- Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- Describe the changes as humans develop to old age (include puberty).

Year 6

- Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function.