

Woodthorpe J.I. School

Healthy Relationships Education Policy

Background Information

Woodthorpe is a one form entry school with children from ages 4 – 11 years. The school has a close knit community and strong partnerships with its parents. The school works hard to provide a warm welcoming environment for all pupils.

Policy Development

This policy has been developed following a series of consultations with children, parents and staff. The policy has been written working with the Health Education Unit and is a statement of the aims, objectives and strategies for the teaching of Healthy Relationships Education (HRE).

Definition

HRE is lifelong learning about, emotions, relationships, sex, sexuality and sexual health. It involves children acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes, enabling them to make informed choices. It should support children in managing adolescence and preparing them for adult life.

Effective HRE provides knowledge and skills and develops emotional understanding within a framework of attitudes and values.

Aims and Objectives of Health Relationships Education (HRE)

HRE at Woodthorpe aims to support children throughout their time at the school to develop:

Values and attitudes:

- Take responsibility for themselves
- Have a caring attitude
- Promote positive self image
- Respect others
- Develop self esteem and self-confidence
- Value themselves while recognising and respecting others ideas and views

Knowledge and understanding:

- Know right from wrong
- Know how to value themselves and others
- Respect others
- Understand what makes a good relationship
- Communicate using appropriate vocabulary when talking about relationships
- Communicate using appropriate vocabulary when talking about the human body
- How to keep safe, clean and healthy
- Be aware of their own bodies and understand and be prepared for the physical and emotional changes that happen as they grow up
- Have an understanding of responsibility within family life.

Skills:

- Keep themselves safe and be able to ask for help in the different situations they may face
- Use knowledge and skills to make informed choices
- Have the communication and negotiation skills they need to act upon the choices they make
- Have the skills necessary to deal with situations involving peer pressure
- Behave in a responsible manner
- Exercise self assertiveness
- Be able to care for others and form positive relationships

Emotional Understanding:

- Awareness of feelings
- Deal with feelings of others and themselves
- Understand positive and negative emotion

Moral and values framework

At Woodthorpe we work together to create an environment where every child and adult feels safe, happy and valued. We support children to become more motivated, responsible, independent and self disciplined members of society with respect for everyone. We believe that the HRE programme in the school supports the values and ethos of Woodthorpe.

Equal opportunities

It is intended that the school's HRE policy and programme will reflect the ethos of the school by providing a secure, inclusive, non-judgemental environment in which to learn. Therefore no child or family will be discriminated against. The policy and content will comply with LA and government guidance.

Content

HRE is based within Science and Personal Social and Health Education. This includes:

KS1:**Science**

- That animals including humans have offspring that grow into adults.
- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body.

PSHE

- The names for the main parts of the body (including external genitalia)
- The similarities and differences between boys and girls
- About good and not so good feelings, a vocabulary to describe their feelings to others and simple strategies for managing feelings
- To judge what kind of physical contact is acceptable, comfortable, unacceptable and uncomfortable and how to respond (including who to tell and how to tell them)
- That people's bodies and feelings can be hurt (including what makes them feel comfortable and uncomfortable)
- To identify and respect the differences and similarities between people rules for and ways of keeping physically and emotionally safe

KS2

Science

- Describe the changes as humans develop to old age, including changes experienced in puberty.
- Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

PSHE

- That pressure to behave in an unacceptable, unhealthy or risky way can come from a variety of sources, including people they know and the media
- Strategies for keeping physically and emotionally safe.
- To recognise what constitutes a positive, healthy relationship and develop the skills to form and maintain positive and healthy relationships.
- To recognise ways in which a relationship can be unhealthy and who to talk to if they need support.
- To be aware of different types of relationship, including those between friends and families, civil partnerships and marriage.
- To judge what kind of physical contact is acceptable or unacceptable and how to respond.
- To know how their body will change as they approach and move through puberty.
- To know about human reproduction.
- To know about change, including transitions (between Key Stages and schools), loss, separation, divorce and bereavement
- To deepen their understanding of good and not so good feelings, to extend their vocabulary to enable them to explain both the range and intensity of their feelings to others.

Organisation

We teach HRE in a variety of ways:

- Through SEAL, PSHE, Science and other curriculum areas
- In circle time
- Through assemblies
- Outside providers

HRE will be taught by the appropriate staff. The teaching of HRE will be flexible enough to take into account the needs of individual year groups. Single sex teaching will be used for some lessons provided by an approved external provider who will be supported by the children's teachers. Both boys and girls will receive the same curriculum. Staff should be aware that parents will need to be informed before they take place.

Specific Issues

Provision for menstruating pupils:

- Supplies of sanitary protection are available in school. They are stored in the staff toilets. Children will be able to speak to any member of staff they feel comfortable with to access supplies.
- A sanitary disposal unit is available in the upper KS2 toilets.

Questions

The school aims to support and encourage children in asking for help. Therefore all questions will be answered appropriately within the following framework:

- Correct and appropriate terminology will be used. The use of correct terminology will be encouraged throughout the school.
- It is inappropriate for both teachers and children to answer personal questions
- Staff are encouraged to answer all questions but will use their professional judgement to decide whether an appropriate response should be given in a whole class situation or referred to home or head teacher
- In support of our equal opportunities policy staff will challenge discrimination and stereotyping
- Staff will support children to understand that people hold different points of view and that there is not always one clear and correct answer

Confidentiality and Safeguarding /Child protection

Confidentiality will be respected unless any Safeguarding/Child Protection issues arise. All staff and people working within the school must follow the LA Child Protection Procedures and inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead for child protection in school.

Use of Outside Visitors

School will only use recommended professionals such as the Brook Advisory Clinic, Loudmouth Theatre, Health Education Unit and the School Nurse. All visitors will work within the policy framework. A teacher will be present at all times.

Parental withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from parts of HRE provided at school except for those parts included in the statutory national curriculum. HRE is an integral part of PSHE and therefore it is not always possible to separate them both. If parents have concerns about the content of HRE or want to withdraw their child they will need to make an appointment with the head to discuss it.

Working with parents

The school seeks to work in partnership with parents through consultation and support. The school recognises that parents play the main role in providing education about relationships and growing up and aims to support parents in this role. Parental views were integral to the development of the policy and schemes of work.

Parents will be specifically informed through a consent letter about the HRE content of the Health Week and be provided with the opportunity to discuss the specific teaching content should they wish.

Dissemination of policy

The policy will be made available to parent or any interested parties.

All staff and governors have had an opportunity to read and comment on the policy.

A clear definition and the aims and objectives of HRE will be included within the school prospectus.

The Rights of Every Child

Woodthorpe JI School uses the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child to ensure that every policy supports the improvement of life chances for children. Related articles: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 12 – 19, 21 – 24, 27, 29 -36.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Science and PSHE Policies.

Signed:

Approved: 26th April 2018

Review: April 2019