



ST.OSMUND'S MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) Policy



*Article 13: Every child must be free to say what they think and seek and receive information*



Department  
for Education

### ***What is sex and relationship education?***

*It is 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.*

At St. Osmund's Middle School it is our aim to equip each pupil with the relevant knowledge, attitudes and skills to make informed decisions regarding matters of sexual health.

The principles which underpin the curriculum are as follows:

- To ensure that all pupils receive appropriate information and advice
- To prepare pupils to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up
- To inform the pupils about the facts relating to human reproduction
- To counter misleading notions and folklore
- To help the pupils consider the broader emotional and ethical dimensions of sexual attitudes
- To promote the pupils' self esteem
- To develop the pupils' sense of moral responsibility
- To develop the pupils' communication skills
- To help the pupils explore values and attitudes

- To acknowledge and complement the role of parents / guardians as sex educators and to work with them.

### **Arrangements for teaching Sex Relationships Education**

SRE will be delivered as part of the Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) programme and therefore pupils will be generally taught in tutor groups. Some elements will be delivered by the form tutor with whom a degree of trust will already exist. Other aspects will be delivered by the subject leader and Science Department as part of the Science curriculum. Sometimes sensitive issues will be delivered in mixed groups, however where this is deemed inappropriate, arrangements will be made for single sex groups to be taught by members of staff of that gender.

### **Cross Curricular Links**

It is envisaged that the teaching of SRE will be supported through cross curricular opportunities being taken in other subject areas. It is extremely likely that work done in PSHCE on anatomy, physiology or human biology will be re-visited in Science. Therefore subject specialism in this area will have a strong role to play in the delivery of our SRE programme.

### **Partnership with Parents**

At St. Osmund's Middle School we believe that the teaching of SRE can best be accomplished by successfully working in partnership with parents and carers who are of course the pupils' principle sex educators. To this end before the course is embarked upon in Year 5, parents are invited to attend an information session. At this meeting the programme of study will be outlined and a sample of course material viewed.

### **The right to withdraw**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education provided at school except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum. In the event of this occurring the parents will be invited into the school to discuss their reservations with the Subject Leader who will hopefully allay their fears.

### **Monitoring the Curriculum**

St. Osmund's Middle School SRE Programme will undergo a constant monitoring process which will consider the following:

- The needs of the pupils
- The wishes of the parents
- County and National guidelines
- Changes in Society
- Areas for improvement issues raised by staff / guest contributors.

### **Reviewing the policy**

In line with statutory guidelines the SRE policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the school governors.

P.Absolom  
PSHCE Subject Leader (January 2018)