



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Sex and Relationships Education Policy (February 2015)

"Sex and Relationships Education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding 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." (DFE July 2000)

This policy provides information on how we will provide Sex and Relationships Education as part of the Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship framework. This is in addition to the statutory National Science Curriculum topics.

What is SRE?

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is about learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships and ourselves. We believe that learning about SRE should be:

- an integral part of the lifelong learning process
- provide a holistic context for emotional and social development across all settings.
- an entitlement for everyone whatever their background, community or circumstance.

Parents and carers are the key people for their child's learning about sex and relationships and we will always work in partnership with home. Parents and carers need to know that the school's SRE programme will complement their role and support them in the education of their child regarding sex and relationships

Aims and Objectives

The aims of our Sex and Relationships Education are to:

- Provide children with knowledge and skills to enable them to make informed and responsible choices now and in later life
- Provide a supportive learning environment in which pupils can develop their feelings of self-worth and confidence, especially in relationship to others
- Promote the spiritual, moral and cultural, mental and physical development of children.
- Preparing children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- Develop the children's own personal esteem, confidence and respect.

Sex and Relationships Education in the context of the National Curriculum:

Legal requirements: St John's Green Primary School has a statutory duty to teach the following as part of the National Curriculum

Science Orders

Key Stage 1

- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults

Key Stage 2

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- describe the changes as humans develop to old age.
- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child/children from these above aspects of the science curriculum.

Foundation

Children learn about the concept of male and female and about young animals. In ongoing PSHE work, they develop skills to form friendships and think about relationships with others.

Key Stage 1 (Years 1&2)

Through work in science, children learn about the life cycles of some animals, understand the idea of growing from young to old and learn that all living things reproduce. They learn about the importance of personal hygiene to maintain good health. In RE and Citizenship, children reflect on family relationships, different family groups and friendship. They learn about rituals and traditions associated with birth, marriage and death and talk about the emotions involved. They begin to co-operate with others in work and play and begin to recognise the range of human emotions and ways to deal with them. They also learn about personal safety.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)

In science, children build on their knowledge of life cycles and learn about the basic biology of human reproduction. In RE and Citizenship, they continue to develop an understanding of relationships within a family, between friends and the community and that there are different patterns of friendship. They will develop skills needed to form relationships and to respect other people's emotions and feelings. They will consider how to make simple choices and exercise some basic techniques for resisting pressures.

The Sex and Relationships Education Programme (SRE) is organised by Mrs Bullivant (Acting Assistant Headteacher) Specific SRE lessons are delivered in Years 5 and 6 and cover the following themes.

Year 5

'Changes'

These sessions cover understanding the physical changes that take place during puberty, why they happen and how to manage them.

Year 6

'How Babies are Made'

'How Babies are Born'

These sessions explain how babies are made within the context of a stable, loving relationship. They show the children how a baby develops in the womb and how a baby is born.

'Girl Talk'

'Boy Talk'

These sessions further explore the physical and emotional changes that take place to both boys and girls during puberty.

SRE is taught by the class teacher. A range of teaching methods are which include use of video, discussion and looking at case studies.

Sex and relationship education is usually delivered in mixed gender groups. However, there are occasions where single gender groups are more appropriate and relevant.

Resources to teach sex and relationship education include fiction, reference books, leaflets and extracts from videos.

We use: Channel 4 Living and Growing - Units 2 & 3 (Available from Channel 4 Learning)

By providing the children of St John's Green with a well-rounded, holistic Sex and Relationship Education, we will

- Promote children's self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others.
- Give accurate information about puberty, reproduction and contraception and promote the skills to build positive personnel relationships.
- Provide information and experiences which are accessible and relevant to children of different ages and maturity.
- Give children opportunities to explore and clarify some of their attitudes toward friendship, sexuality and gender.
- Ensure that children understand their feelings, body changes, the consequences of their actions and they are able to acquire the skills to understand and manage their physical and social health.
- Encourage the exploration of values and moral issues, hearing points of views of others and respecting their own and other decisions, rights and bodies.
- Encourage the development of communication and decision making skills.
- Develop skills to negotiate and resist unwanted pressure.
- Give children the chance to explore ideas about family, marriage, parenting and ways in which people care for each other, and the benefit of stable relationships.
- Be responsive to differing needs and backgrounds

The SRE programme ensures that children will revisit topics so they will build upon their existing knowledge and skills throughout the school.

All members of staff will deliver the schools SRE programme to their class. If a member of staff feels that they are insufficiently prepared to address particular issues they should speak to the Head teacher, who will be able to offer support and ideas.

Materials which will be used in the school's SRE Programme can be seen by parents in school on request to Mrs Bullivant who is the designated teacher with responsibility for coordinating sex and relationship education.

The school informs parents when aspects of the sex and relationship programme are taught and provides opportunities for parents to discuss the content of the lessons and to view the videos and resources being used.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from those aspects of sex and relationship education not included in the National Curriculum Science Orders - alternative work will be set.

Sex and Relationships –Policy and Practice

- A designated teacher (Mrs Bullivant) will have overall responsibility for the provision of the programme, for monitoring developments within sex education and for recommending to governors any amendments that she feels necessary and appropriate.
- Parents will receive prior notification of the SRE Programme to enable them to discuss issues with staff or their own children.
- Materials used in the SRE Programme will be available to parents on request.
- Parents may withdraw their children from all or part of the school's SRE Programme if they wish.
- The SRE Programme will cover aspects of personal hygiene, puberty, menstruation, pregnancy and birth.
- The children will be taught in both single and mixed gender groups as appropriate.
- If questions are asked by children outside the SRE Programme, the designated sex education teacher will use their discretion in answering them in an appropriate manner and at an appropriate and suitable time.
- Every child – including those with protected characteristics (see Equality Policy) is entitled to receive SRE.
- It is our intention all children have the opportunity to experience a programme of SRE at a level which is appropriate for their age and physical development with differentiated provision if required.
- The school's SRE Policy is subject to annual review.

Dealing with difficult questions

Ground rules are essential to provide an agreed structure to answering sensitive or difficult questions. This framework facilitates the use of an anonymous question box as a distancing technique.

Teachers should use their professional judgement and discretion when confronted with explicit or difficult questions posed by a child. Teachers are not under any obligation to answer the question directly and may wish to discuss it with the individual child at a later date. This does not necessarily mean that the question needs answering. It may be that the teacher decides that the child is not mature enough to understand the answer or that it is necessary to find the reason for asking such a question. In these situations a teacher should refer to the Head teacher if they are concerned.

Equal Opportunity

We believe that children need to be given accurate information and help to develop skills to enable them to understand differences and respect themselves and others to prevent and remove prejudice.

Our SRE programme aims to be inclusive of all regardless of gender, race, religion, social circumstances and ability. We intend to meet individual pupils' needs to enable them to achieve academically and in their personal relationships. This may involve providing additional support for individual children.

Use of visitors

"Visitors should complement but never substitute or replace planned provision. It is the PSHE co-ordinator's and teacher's responsibility to plan the curriculum and lessons."

Sex and Relationship Guidance DfEE 0116/2000 P 29 6.11

When appropriate, visitors such as the school nurse may be involved in the delivery of sex and relationship education, particularly in Key Stage 2. All visitors are briefed on the schools attitudes and values concerning SRE and will be expected to promote the aims of our policy. They will plan what is to be taught with the support of the class teacher.

Children with special needs

Teaching and resources will be differentiated as appropriate to address the needs of these children in order for them to have full access to the content of sex and relationship education.

Child Protection/Confidentiality

Teachers need to be aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue.

The staff member will inform the Head Teacher/Designated Child Protection person in line with the LEA procedures for child protection.

A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring is the responsibility of the head teacher, named governor and teacher with responsibility for sex and relationship education.

The effectiveness of the SRE programme will be evaluated by assessing children's learning and implementing change if required.

Teaching of SRE 2015

The current Year 6 will be taught SRE using Living and Growing Resources unit 3 for 3 weeks- 2x week, followed by E- Safety for 3 week- 2 x week in AP4 after May half term.

Year 5 will have an E safety day in AP4 after May Half term.

Year 4 will be taught SRE using Living and Growing Resources Unit 2 in AP4

Year 3 will be taught SRE using Living and Growing Resources Unit 1 in AP4

Year 2 will use PSHE and Science to support children understanding of Relationships

This will be reviewed September 2015

To be read in conjunction with the following policies – Child Protection, Equality, Behaviour, Anti Bullying, Teaching and Learning