



Ashton St. Peter's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Sex and Relationship Education

Ratified May 2021

Update May 2022

As a Church of England school, sex education is given in the school within a moral, family-orientated and Christian framework.

It is important that, as they grow up, children come to an understanding of their own bodies, instincts and feelings. In this way they will be prepared for the opportunities, joys and responsibilities of permanent relationships.

Sex and relationship education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of loving and caring relationships. It is about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

Research demonstrates that good, comprehensive sex and relationship education does not make young people more likely to become sexually active at a younger age.

Moral and Values Framework

Sex and relationship education will reflect the Values and PSHE teaching. Sex and Relationship Education will be taught in the context of relationships.

In addition Sex and Relationship Education will promote self-esteem and emotional health and well-being and help the children form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships, based on respect for themselves and for others, at home, school, work and in the community.

Aims and Objectives for Sex and Relationship Education

The aim of Sex and Relationship Education is to provide children with age appropriate information, explore attitudes and values and develop skills in order to empower them to make positive decisions about their health related behaviour.

This should take place with consideration of the qualities of relationships within families.

The objectives of Sex and Relationship Education are to:

- provide the knowledge and information to which all pupils are entitled
- clarify/reinforce existing knowledge
- raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others
- help pupils understand their sexual feelings and behaviour, so they can lead fulfilling and enjoyable lives;
- help pupils' develop skills (language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) and make the most of their abilities
- provide the confidence to be participating members of society and to value themselves and others
- help gain access to information and support
- develop skills for a healthier safer lifestyle
- develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media
- learn rules for, and ways of keeping physically and emotionally safe (including safety online and social media)
- respect and care for their bodies
- be prepared for puberty and adulthood

The teaching programme for Sex and Relationship Education Legal requirements

All schools must teach the following as part of the National Curriculum for Science so, parents do not have the right to withdraw their child/children from Science lessons.

National Curriculum for Science

Key Stage 1 Children Should:

- understand that animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
- recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans and animals
- understand that humans and animals can reproduce offspring and these grow into adults
- recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others and treat others with sensitivity

Lower Key Stage 2 Children Should:

- recognise that animals, including humans need the right types and amounts of nutrition
- understand the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system

- identify the different teeth in humans and their simple functions

Upper Key Stage 2 Children Should:

- understand the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction
- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- understand the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans
- understand the main stages of the human life cycle

Every child is entitled to receive Sex and Relationship Education regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, age, culture, disability, sexuality, language or special needs, including disadvantaged children and those who are looked after.

It is our intention that all children have the opportunity to experience a programme of Sex and Relationship Education at a level which is appropriate for their age and physical development with differentiated provision if required.

The organisation of Sex and Relationship Education

The PSHE subject leader is the designated teacher with responsibility for coordinating sex and relationship education.

Sex and Relationship Education is delivered through Science, PSHE, English activities and circle time. Each year it will be taught as a discrete topic across the whole school at an age appropriate level.

Sex and Relationship Education is taught by classroom teachers and outside visitors such as 'Big Talk'.

A range of teaching methods which involve children's full participation are used to teach Sex and Relationship Education. These include use of video, books, discussion and looking at case studies.

Sex and Relationship Education will be delivered in mixed gender groups or single gender groups when this is more appropriate and relevant.

Parental consultation

The school informs parents when aspects of the Sex and Relationship programme are taught as part of the curriculum. Parents are informed of this through the half termly

class curriculum overviews which are emailed to parents and available on the school website.

Parents/carers are invited annually to attend an information evening regarding the discrete teaching of Sex and Relationship Education. They are fully informed of the content to be delivered to each year group on the following day. They are given the opportunity to ask any questions and view resources to be used.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from those aspects of sex and relationship education, not included in the National Curriculum for Science, alternative work would be set. If a parent wishes to withdraw their child from these aspects of the talks they must inform the school in writing by the day before the talks are given.

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 Safeguarding Officer in line with the LA procedures for child protection.

A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.

Dealing with difficult questions

Ground rules - It is essential that Sex and Relationship Education is carried out in a safe, non-judgemental environment where adults and young people are confident that they will be respected. Specific ground rules will be established at the beginning of any Sex and Relationship Education work, in addition to those already used in the classroom. They will cover the following areas:

- Appropriate use of language
- The asking and answering of personal questions
- Strategies for checking or accessing information

This framework facilitates the use of an anonymous question box as a distancing technique.

Teachers will endeavour to answer questions as honestly as possible but if faced with a question they do not feel comfortable answering within the classroom, provision would be made to meet the individual child's needs.

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.

Monitoring and Evaluation

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

The school will assess the effectiveness of the aims, content and methods in promoting students' learning by lesson observation, sampling teachers planning, questionnaires to teachers and children and feedback from parents.

The effectiveness of the Sex and Relationship Education programme will be evaluated by monitoring children's learning during 'BIG TALK' sessions.

Links with other policies

This policy is linked with the following policies:

PSHE

Equality

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Pupil Discipline and Behaviour

Anti-Bullying

Inclusion

These policies can be found on the website

Review Procedures

The School's policy will be reviewed when:

- Annually May 2022
- The School wishes to review the policy.
- If amendments are required by the LA

Ratified by:

Date: May 2021

Chair of Governors