

Wrington C of E Primary School

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) Policy

This policy should be taken as part of the overall strategy of the school and operated within the context of our vision, aims and values as a Church of England school.

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is firmly rooted in the PSHE framework and is defined by the DFES as follows:

‘It is life-long 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.’

(SRE Guidance, DFEE, 2000)

Our aims for SRE are:

- To explore a range of attitudes and values towards relationships and sex-related issues and help pupils reach their own, informed opinions.
- To provide accurate information about; and increase understanding of sex- related issues.
- To provide a programme of SRE which is developmentally appropriate for our children (see appendix 1 for SRE programme).
- To develop respect for others.
- To increase pupils’ self-esteem and self-respect.
- To provide a safe environment where pupils feel confident and able to ask questions.
- To develop skills such as communication, risk assessment, managing relationships, decision making, assertiveness, conflict resolution, seeking help and using services.
- To prepare our children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.
- To explore feelings within the context of relationships such as family and friends.

SRE contributes to the teaching of PSHE, SEAL and Citizenship by ensuring that all children:

- Know who is available to talk to.
- Develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships.
- Manage increasingly complex feelings.
- Understand and deal with peer pressure.
- Are able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work.
- Can protect themselves and ask for help and support.
- Are prepared for puberty.
- Can make informed decisions and choices.

At Wrington C of E Primary School we realise that although we have a responsibility to teach the children about the nature of marriage and its importance for family life we must also be sensitive to the varied family backgrounds of our children. We understand that what constitutes a happy, caring home life has more to do with the quality of relationships than family structure.

Organisation

The PSHE leader, in consultation with the head teacher, is responsible for planning the programme of SRE within the school. We recognise that elements of SRE are covered in other curriculum areas. Each class teacher is responsible for covering the objectives for their year group. Year 3 and above use the channel four video 'Living and Growing' as part of their delivery of the SRE programme.

Parents are informed about the dates when SRE is being covered in class and are given the opportunity to view the DVD before any SRE lessons take place. Parents are asked to sign a permission slip to show that they are happy for their child to take part in the SRE lessons.

Sensitive Issues

Pupils are encouraged to ask questions during SRE sessions. Teachers are aware of techniques which help to create a relaxed atmosphere and encourage pupils to talk openly (see appendix 2).

If the class teacher feels that it would be appropriate they may ask for the school Learning Mentor to support particular pupils such as children with special education needs or vulnerable pupils within an SRE lesson.

Confidentiality

Pupils will be reassured that their best interests will be maintained. Pupils will be encouraged and supported to talk to their parents and carers where possible. It will be made clear to pupils that teachers will not always be able to maintain confidentiality and if possible it will be made clear where these boundaries of confidentiality lie before pupils make personal disclosures.

Pupils will be reassured that if confidentiality is broken, they will be told beforehand of the reason and offered support as appropriate.

If abuse is disclosed the child protection policy will be adhered to.

If a child protection issue is disclosed the teacher must follow the guidelines in the child protection policy. Other disclosures should be dealt with using the teacher's own judgement but they are strongly encouraged to share issues with the head teacher.

Parental 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 for Science (see appendix 3). Parents who make this choice will be encouraged to share their concerns with their child's class teacher and/ or head teacher. Any children who are withdrawn will be dealt with in a sensitive and discreet manner.

Monitoring and Evaluating

Monitoring the standards of work and the quality of teaching SRE is the responsibility of the PSHE leader and SLT. The PSHE leader supports colleagues in the teaching of SRE and provides a lead in the school for the subject as well as keeping themselves and other members of staff informed about current developments in the subject. Evaluation of the subject will include discussions with staff and pupils particularly following the use of the video in Year 3 and above.

Safeguarding

Staff will be made aware that effective SRE, which brings an understanding of what is and isn't acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue. If this were to happen the member of staff involved will inform the designated safeguarding teacher or governor and disclosures will be recorded and followed up in an appropriate way.

Provision for Key Stage two girls

Sanitary Disposal Units are located in the Year 5 and 6 girls' toilet. Girls requiring sanitary protection are made aware that they should go to a school first aider or their class teacher.

Policy production and review

This policy has been produced in consultation with parents, governors and staff and will be reviewed in January 2018.