



## **Sex Education & Relationships**

### **Rationale**

Hawthorn Primary School has based this policy on the DFEE guidance document Sex and Relationship Guidance (ref DFEE 0116/2000). In this document, sex education is defined as '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'.

Sex education is part of the personal, social and health education curriculum in our school. While we use sex education to inform children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to explore questions. We do not use sex education as a means of promoting any form of sexual orientation.

### **Aims**

We teach children about:

The physical, social and emotional changes they will encounter as they progress into puberty;

An acceptable and agreed vocabulary for all parts of the body;

Having a sensible attitude towards sex and naturally body functions;

Be aware of their rights, especially concerning who can touch their bodies;

Raise awareness of the sources of help and information that are available to families.

### **Objectives**

We intend to:

Share with parents the responsibility of sex and relationship education;

Enable children to lead confident, healthy independent lives and become informed, active responsible citizens;

Help children to make appropriate judgements and choices.

### **Guidance**

**The National Curriculum 2014 states:** *All schools should make provision for personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), drawing on good practice. Sex and relationship education (SRE) is an important part of PSHE education.*

The SRE programme is taught through the PSHE framework, in the wider context of relationships, as well as through aspects of the Science curriculum.

Children are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

At Key Stages 1 & 2, PSHE is delivered through four broad themes –

1. developing confidence and responsibility, and making the most of pupils' abilities;
2. preparing to play an active role as citizens;
3. developing a healthier, safer lifestyle;
4. developing good relationships, and respecting differences between people.

SRE is predominantly taught by class teachers, and is cross-curricular, tailored to the age, physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It is delivered through a 'spiral curriculum,' which is graduated and age-appropriate.

When necessary, additional staff will be used to enable pupils to ask questions and discuss issues in small groups. (Consideration will be given as to the suitability of single gender grouping for certain sessions.)

At Key Stage One, SRE will focus mainly on friendship and understanding of bullying, as well as building confidence and self-esteem.

At Key Stage Two, pupils need to know about puberty before they experience the onset of physical changes. The teaching is delivered within science and is supported by the Newcastle NHS school nursing service.

In Year 6, the programme is designed to support the pupils' ongoing emotional and physical development as they prepare for their transition to secondary education.

Letters will be sent out at the beginning of Year 6 to give you notice of the upcoming teaching and education provided throughout the year. If you would like further

Sex and Relationship education will be age appropriate and progressive, delivered within the school's PSHE programme. In the Early Years and Key Stage 1, teaching will concentrate on naming body parts, relationships, families, life cycles, responsibility, making choices, right and wrong, personal safety, self esteem and asking for help.

In Key Stage 2 teaching will develop these issues, and in Years 5 and 6 they will look specifically at - physical, emotional and social changes at puberty, the 'mechanics' of sexual intercourse, pregnancy and birth, awareness of different sexual orientation, awareness of other cultures attitudes to sex and safer sex. Parents will be offered the opportunity to see all materials used and made aware of their right of withdrawal of their child from sex and relationship lessons. All specific sex and relationship will be taught in the context of stable, loving relationships and include work on feelings and values. At all times children's questions will be answered accurately and appropriately.

Children will be made aware of where to go for more information, confidential advice or counselling.

### **Monitoring and Review.**

The coordinator and Head teacher are responsible for both staff and parents being informed about our sex and relationship policy. They will ensure the policy is implemented effectively. Individual staff will be given training so that they can teach

effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity. Our school nurse will also deliver some sessions. Sex and relationship education will be monitored as part of the PSHE curriculum in line with school procedures for the foundation subjects.

**Right of withdrawal.**

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from any SRE (other than that delivered in science). In this instance we would need to agree alternative provisions. School will need to be informed at the start of the school year. There is a legal requirement that all pupils receive the Science component of the National Curriculum.

**Conclusion.**

Sex and Relationship education is only one part of the PSHE programme, giving children the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to make informed and healthy choices as they move into adulthood.

**Read in conjunction with:**

Safeguarding  
E-Safety Policy

**Sex Education and Relationship Policy – Inclusion Committee  
Head Teacher**

**To Governors  
Date 10th May 2018  
Review Date 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Hawthorn**  
**Primary School**