

**Sex and Relationships Education Policy**

##### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Sex education is a lifelong process whereby children and young people acquire knowledge, understanding and skills, and develop beliefs, attitudes and values about their sexuality and relationships within a moral and ethical framework. It is about understanding the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, and respect and care. Sex education is seen as part of a co-ordinated programme of Health Education and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) in school.

**2.0 Aims**

2.1 To foster an understanding that positive, caring environments are essential for the development of a good self image.

2.2 To foster self- awareness and self-esteem, and a sense of responsibility and respect for themselves and others, including the nature of sexuality and relationships.

2.3 To provide pupils with accurate and relevant information about the physical and emotional changes they will experience throughout their formative years and into adulthood

2.4 To encourage the acquisition of skills and attitudes which allow pupils to manage their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner.

**3.0 Objectives**

3.1 To provide knowledge of how the body works together with the appropriate vocabulary.

3.2 To find out about how the body changes as puberty is approached and to provide knowledge about the process of reproduction.

3.3 To begin to develop understanding about the attitudes and values governing responsible relationships by providing opportunities for discussion.

3.4 To begin to make the pupils aware of health issues connected with sex and puberty.

**4.0 Teaching Strategies and Links with Other Subjects**

4.1 There is no formal sex education until Year 6 where the children undertake a programme of lessons and videos with opportunities to discuss issues that arise from the programme and their own developing ideas. Parents have the option of withdrawing their children.

4.2 As year 6 children are at a stage where many of them are increasingly interested in sexual matters and increasingly aware of these matters through television and internet this is an ideal time to undertake such a programme. The programme emphasises the uniqueness of every individual and family and the benefits of stable relationships.

4.3 Younger children will be introduced to this subject as they progress through the school at times and in ways appropriate to their age, needs and development. The moral aspects of this subject are subjective in nature and are more fully covered in personal, social and health education and through teaching about religious beliefs and codes of conduct in RE.

4.4 Science Topics such as Our Homes, Ourselves, Our bodies will include some ideas to be developed through the school.

4.5 Health education introducing some elements of sex education will be introduced throughout the school and the work in Year 6 will build on this and the work of parents. The ‘Mothers and Daughters’ meeting for girls in Year 6 is facilitated by the School Nurse and looks at issues around girl’s puberty and bodily changes..

4.6 Issues about sex education that may arise with younger children will be dealt with sensitively and with consideration of the child’s age and needs. It may be appropriate to discuss a particular query or comment with an individual child rather than the whole class. Discussion after the videos in Year 6 is open and honest.

 **5.0 Inclusion**

5.1 As with all areas of education sex education is an entitlement for all children although parents will be given the opportunity to withdraw their children from the programme.

**6.0 Monitoring and Evaluation**

6.1 This policy will be reviewed biannually.

6.2 Year 6 teachers will assess the effectiveness of the programme at the end of the summer term. Any changes to the programme will be discussed with the Head Teacher, Governors and the PSHE co-ordinator. There will be liaison with outside agencies when appropriate.

**Approval**

Approved at the full governing body meeting held on 27th June 2013 - minute number G768.

Date for review: Summer Term 2015

Committee Responsible: Teaching & Learning