



RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Introduction

THIS DOCUMENT IS a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for Sex and Relationship Education at North Downs Primary School.

IT WAS REVISED through a process of consultation with teaching and non-teaching staff and our PSHE Governor.

IT WAS APPROVED by the Governors in July 2012

THIS POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED as required.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

This policy supports the agenda of Every Child Matters, with particular reference to children being safe and keeping healthy.

RSE in North Downs Primary School.

Relationships and Sex Education is taught at North Downs School, to meet the requirements of the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance.

Relationships and Sex Education is not taught in isolation but is rooted in the framework for PSHE see policy. The links are cross curricular and also include the National Curriculum Science Programme.

These are the key issues for primary school children.

To:

- be able to name body parts and describe how their bodies work.
- develop confidence in talking, listening, thinking about feelings and relationships.
- be able to protect themselves and ask for support.
- be prepared for puberty.

At North Downs School we believe that the responsibility for sex education is a shared role between parents and school, recognising that this is not just about biological fact to ensure this role is shared with understanding and sensitivity we feel that the following policy is necessary.

All staff will deliver RSE through their daily work. Class teachers will deliver specific aspects relating to puberty and reproduction with the support of the school nurse. External agencies such as the school nurse will be invited to be involved in planning and co delivering some of the sessions.

Parents will be given opportunities to attend viewing of any DVDs school may use to enhance their teaching of puberty.

Aims of Relationships and Sex Education

To:

- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils.
- complement and support the work of parents.
- prepare pupils to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up.
- give pupils an elementary understanding of human reproduction.
- support the personal and social development of all pupils.
- offer balanced and factual information appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils acknowledging the moral and ethical issues involved.

- **Objectives of Relationships and Sex Education**

To:

- recognise the value of loving and caring relationships.
- discover what pupils know, understand, think and feel and identify their needs.
- create a programme for progressive and differentiated learning which caters for pupils' needs and is sensitive to individuals and groups.
- encourage unembarrassed acceptance of sexuality by providing appropriate vocabulary for all parts of the body and encourage positive attitudes to all bodily functions.
- generate an atmosphere where questions and discussions on sexual matters can take place without embarrassment.
- counteract misunderstanding of how the body functions.
- enable pupils to accept variation in rates of growth and development (physical, emotional, social) and in ages when puberty or social activities commence.
- provide constant reassurance that change is part of the life cycle and to give help in adjusting to these changes.

How will Sex Education be taught?

- A large proportion of sex education will be taught during Science lessons as part of a planned programme time-tabled for all pupils.
- Some aspects of sex education will be delivered through cross-curricular topics or in timetabled P.S.H.E. provision such as circle-time.
- The use of visitors and outside agencies will also be included where appropriate.
- Teaching groups will vary from class, small groups or individuals according to the sensitivity of subject matter and individual personal needs. Teachers will be prepared to respond to pupils' questions as and when they arise.
- In Year 5 & 6 sex education will be taught in year groups using the specialist skills of the School Nurse and there may be some sensitive issues that will be taught in single
- Meanings of sensitive words will be explained in a sensible and factual manner appropriate to the age of the children.
- Correct words for body parts will be used.

Equal Opportunities

- Children will have equal access to the sex education curriculum unless specifically withdrawn from this provision by their parents. Parents may, if they wish, withdraw their child from all or part of the sex education provided, except for the requirements of the National Curriculum. In order to exercise this right parents should write to the Headteacher.
- In line with the equal opportunities provision in the PHSE policy we will:-
- actively promote non-sexist language.
- discuss issues of equal opportunities
- develop a positive attitude to variety and difference.

Sexual orientation

Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation will be dealt with immediately and appropriately, in a way which preserves the dignity and value of people in society without promoting their actions.

Special Educational Needs

Extra care will be taken to ensure sensitivity is shown towards children whose maturity, experience of family life, sexual knowledge and moral framework is a cause of concern.

Monitoring the Sex Education Policy

- Sex education will be monitored in line with the school monitoring policy.
- P.S.H.E. and Science co-coordinators will have responsibility to monitor the effectiveness of the planning and organisational procedures of sex education that form part of their curriculum responsibility. Staff development needs will also be addressed.

This policy also links to:

PSHE

Equal Opportunities

Science