

Yorke Mead Primary School

Sex and Relationship Policy

March 2017



Our School Vision Statement

BRINGING LEARNING to LIFE

We are a school dedicated to creating an environment where children are able to grow into happy, well-rounded individuals with a love of learning through which they can achieve to the best of their abilities.

We want our pupils to enter the wider world as

- o Happy, positive individuals*
- o Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution*
- o Confident, resilient, healthy & life-long learners.*

DARE TO...

D - Determination

A - Ambition

R - Resilience

E – Enjoyment

T - Trust

O - Openness

Purpose

A key aim of Yorke Mead Primary school is that each pupil will develop the skills and knowledge to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe. Decisions about how they relate to others can only be made if they have adequate knowledge and understanding of their own physical and emotional development. This is not a task for the school in isolation, and we seek to work with parents to ensure that the teaching of sex education reflects their expectations and complements teaching at home.

Aims

- To incorporate Sex and Relationships Education into the whole school PSHCE framework
- To teach the nature of human reproduction in gradually increasing detail.
- To prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.
- To explore and clarify attitudes and values.
- To encourage children to adopt a healthy lifestyle, as part of the Healthy schools agenda.
- As far as possible, SRE will be tailored to pupil's needs, in line with SRE guidance and National Curriculum requirements (see appendix).

Partnerships with parents

The school's programme for SRE will complement and build in co-operation with parents. All parents and carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of any SRE (except when it occurs in national Curriculum Science lessons.) If a parent/ carer wishes to withdraw their child from some or all SRE lessons, they need to have a discussion with the Headteacher so that she can be made aware of the reasons and provide alternative arrangements. Every year prior to our annual Baby and Toddler Week, we organise a session for parents/ carers to find out more about our teaching programme and to review our resources such as DVDs Parents and carers are given the opportunity to preview the DVD / materials that will be shown to children. A main part of the Baby and Toddler week is the involvement of parents who bring in young children for question and answer sessions with classes across the school.

A copy of the Sex and Relationship policy is available for parents who request it.

Organisation of SRE

SRE is part of our National Curriculum Science programme. Other aspects of SRE are taught mainly within the SEAL programme which forms the basis of our PSHCE lessons, as well as in English and RE sessions. Through planned lessons in the curriculum as well as through wider school activities such as assemblies, children are able to develop their ideas, knowledge and skills gradually and appropriately.

Teachers have the main responsibility for teaching SRE in the classroom. They liaise with the school nurse to support the teaching in upper Key Stage 2 classes, ensuring that our pupils receive up to date and balanced information. This policy will be shared with staff in the term that this unit is taught within the PSHE curriculum.

Information is given to parents regarding curriculum topics being covered each term in class, this includes PSHE / SRE topics.

Teaching strategies

At Yorke Mead Primary school we focus on teaching SRE in the context of relationships using a variety of informal and formal opportunities and strategies. This helps children to develop their self-esteem and emotional wellbeing and to form and maintain worthwhile and fulfilled relationships which are based on respect for themselves and each other.

As much as possible we provide an interactive learning environment which is motivating and allows pupils to practise skills as well as to gain information and knowledge. We also allow time for reflection. All sessions will have clear aims and learning outcomes.

Confidentiality and child protection

All staff members and external visitors who work with our pupils will be given a copy of this policy. Our school nurse is guided by the Fraser guidelines, which provides guidance for health professionals. The Headteacher / PSHE lead will have a discussion with any health professional or adult before they start work with the children. This is to ensure that they are familiar with our policy and expectations regarding correct practices and how to respond to issues, including those that relate to child protection matters.

We make it clear to pupils what our procedures are with regard to confidentiality when SRE is being delivered. We provide pupils with the opportunity to have their questions answered anonymously in a safe / secure environment i.e. question / worry / ask boxes are in each classroom so that pupils can place questions regarding any issue they are concerned about. The staff member will respond to these questions in a way that is age and stage appropriate and will always consult with the Headteacher if guidance is required on how to respond to particular queries / requests. Similarly with questions that are asked in class or in assembly, adults will follow agreed practice based on DfE Guidance 2000. Another adult will be in the room during question and answer sessions.

Staff Training

All teachers and other staff members who are required to teach / support SRE will have access to relevant training and resources.

Evaluation, assessment and reporting to parents

Evaluation and assessment including self-assessment are an integral part of SRE. Assessment of pupils' personal development will be incorporated into PSHCE assessment in line with the school policy. A comment on pupils' PSHE progress will be included in our annual reporting to parents / carers.

Roles and responsibilities

The **governing body** will:

- Decide whether sex education should be in the school curriculum and, if so, what it should consist of and how it should be organised.
- Seek the advice of the Headteacher on this policy, keep it up to date, and make it available to parents
- Ensure that sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life, and the importance of a stable family unit.

The **Headteacher** will ensure that:

- The governing body is advised about the nature and organisation of sex and relationship education and how it reflects the aims and values of the school.
- Ensure that sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life, and the importance of a stable family unit.
- Pupils are protected from inappropriate teaching materials
- A scheme of work is agreed and implemented
- Staff receive appropriate training
- Parents are informed about the programme for sex education during the year.

Staff who teach sex and relationship education are expected to:

- Ensure that sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life, and the importance of a stable family unit.
- Participate in training to provide sex and relationship education in line with the school curriculum policy
- Implement the agreed scheme of work
- Draw to the attention of the Headteacher any materials which they consider to be inappropriate
- Respond appropriately to those pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from sex education
- Ensure information provided is appropriate to the age and understanding of the children.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation

The Head teacher will provide a report if there are significant changes in any of the following:

- the scheme of work
- number of parental and pupils complaints
- number of parents and pupils who attended the SRE evenings
- number of pupils withdrawn from lessons
- number of teachers and other staff involved in training on sex education.

Lessons on sex and relationship education will be observed as part of the normal programme of monitoring teaching.

Who was consulted?

Feedback from teachers and parents continues to feed into the on-going policy review.

Relationship to other policies

Sex education forms an integral part of the curriculum policy and the schemes of work for science, personal, social, health and citizen education (PSHCE) and relates to child protection. It also forms part of our Healthy schools provision.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other safeguarding policies: Drugs Education, Anti-Bullying and Child Protection.

In line with our Inclusion policy, reasonable adjustments will be made for children with special educational needs or disabilities and due regard will be given to religious and cultural requirements.