



A world of opportunities

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Signed	<i>V. Garreth</i>
Role	Chair of FGB
Date	11 July 2019

Approved by (Committee)	FGB
Date approved	11 July 2019
Review frequency	Annually
Date of next review	June 2020

Our children learn about sex and relationships from the very youngest age, even if we don't talk with them. Some of the things they learn are incorrect, confusing and frightening. In a world where sex is used to sell things from food to fast cars, and celebrities' lives become everyone's business, we should talk to our children to help them make sense of it all. [Teachernet]

All the governors and staff of Northwood Primary School are committed to sharing a common objective to help keep the children and staff of the school community safe. We ensure that consistent effective safeguarding procedures are in place in order to support families, children and staff of the school. This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Child Protection Policy.

RATIONALE

Relationships and Sex Education in school is to help and support pupils through their lifelong learning about physical, emotional and moral development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care within family life. They will learn to understand themselves, respect others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. It encourages the gaining of knowledge, understanding and skills and attitudes which allow pupils to manage their own relationships within a healthy, responsible lifestyle.

The school's Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) scheme 'Life Education SCARF' ensures that Sex and Relationship Education is taught throughout the school. It has been firmly woven within PSHE and the curriculum to allow continuity and progression across the curriculum to make it appropriate to different year groups from Reception to Year 6. We believe that this is essential if young people are to make well informed decisions throughout their lives.

Whilst Sex Education has a major focus on two occasions in Key Stage 2, it will occur at other times in the PSHE Programme. A specific letter will not be sent out prior to all aspects of Relationships and Sex Education. Parents/carers will be given the opportunity to view materials used prior to lessons being taught. In rare cases, after consultation, it may be appropriate for a child to be withdrawn from a particular lesson. However, children may not be withdrawn from the aspects of Sex Education laid down in the Science National Curriculum.

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- To prepare boys and girls for puberty
- To prepare girls for menstruation before their periods start
- To know that human beings develop at different rates
- To know that we are all different and of equal value for which we must learn to take responsibility.
- To know that we have feelings which affect others
- To know that babies have specific needs
- To be able to name all the parts of the human body
- To learn how to keep ourselves safe
- To know about the human life cycle
- To develop an awareness of all loving, caring 'family' relationships
- To train and support staff, as part of the performance management process, in order for them to be able to deal with sensitive issues confidently in the classroom
- To create a safe, trusting environment, reducing anxiety and embarrassment through establishing clear ground rule with pupils

To monitor learning as part of the Relationships and Sex Education Programme, reporting any concerns or specific issues to the PSHE lead and Head Teacher

To critically evaluate the Relationships and Sex Education Programme and make required changes year on year [The Relationships and Sex Education Policy may also be changed and parents will be informed]

To prepare children for the responsibilities, opportunities and experiences of later life

To provide equality of opportunity for all children, regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, gender or race

To promote the Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural development of learners by encouraging an understanding of themselves and the world, to enjoy positive, memorable experiences and to shape the communities they live in

To promote high levels of self-esteem for all pupils

To encourage constructive relationships of mutual respect between pupils and all adults within school

GUIDELINES

From reception to Year 6 pupils will follow a comprehensive programme of study incorporating citizenship, RE, sexual health and Circle Time.

The Relationships and Sex Education curriculum will provide information which is easy to understand and is relevant and appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils.

The curriculum will promote the exploration and clarification of values and attitudes.

Sex and Relationships Education will be taught as part of the PSHE and Citizenship Framework and within topics which will be developed from year to year in increasing depth.

Relationships and Sex Education is part of a whole-school approach which should be planned and progressive within the health education of each child throughout their primary years.

Acknowledgement should be made of the pupil's different starting points.

The work should be integrated within the curriculum and be mainly undertaken by the class teachers in conjunction with appropriate external agencies.

The views of the Parents, Governors and other Stakeholders will always be taken into consideration.

WHO WILL TEACH RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

In general, class teachers will teach the Relationships and Sex Education curriculum. Support and advice will be sought from the school nurse and other appropriate outside agencies. Visitors can make a positive contribution to RSE when working alongside the teacher. Their visit must always be part of a planned programme with clear aims and objectives. Some lessons, particularly in KS2 may be covered within smaller single gender groups.

There are a range of people in the community who may be able to support RSE e.g. school nurses, nurses, health visitors, doctors and health related organisations, LA staff and youth workers. These external agencies can give the pupils access to a wide range of experience and expertise, new resources and different approaches to learning. The use of any external agency must be planned to enhance the provision within school and agreed with the PSHE subject lead.

Teachers are expected to be present during class sessions. Visitors will need to be made aware of:

- The values of the school
- Northwood Primary School is committed to equal opportunity
- The SEND code of practice
- The school policy for PSHE and RSE
- The boundaries within which they will work

- The need for sensitivity when responding to pupils' questions
- Any sensitive issue
- Child Protection procedures
- Confidentiality issues
- The way behaviour is managed in the school
- The way pupils with special educational needs are supported in their learning

MEETING THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF TEACHING STAFF

Staff will be supported in their teaching of Relationship and Sex Education by the PSHE subject leader. Specific individual needs will be addressed by further training, either in-house or as INSET provided by the LA. Materials and resources will be identified and purchased by members of staff or the PSHE subject leader as appropriate.

DEALING WITH SPECIFIC TOPICS

We believe that all pupils should be given the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead a confident, healthy and independent life and to become informed, active and responsible citizens. These guidelines are designed to support teachers, assistants and parents to achieve this aim. We will work with pupils, enabling them to achieve healthy lifestyles and consider sensitive issues.

- Child Protection – Teachers will refer to the school policy and the council's child protection procedures and guidelines
- Confidentiality – The limitations on confidentiality need to be made clear by teachers before personal disclosures are made. A general rule is that any personal information about people within a group is not to be used outside the group without permission.
- LGBTQ+ - Individual questions from the children will be answered as thought appropriate to the age of that child. Teachers have a responsibility to educate all pupils about the diversity within society and should not promote one lifestyle above another.

WORKING WITH PARENTS/CARERS

The school informs parents when aspects of the Relationship and Sex Education programme are taught and provides opportunities for parents to view the videos and resources being used. Under the Education Act 1993, pupils may be withdrawn by their parents of the RSE programme that are outside the compulsory elements of the National Curriculum. However this rarely happens, by working in partnership with parents they recognise the importance of this aspect of their child's education.

Parents wishing to exercise this right should contact the Head Teacher to discuss the aspect of the programme causing concern. Parents will be consulted about the content of the RSE programme to ensure that the programme compliments and supports their role as parents. Parents will be welcome to come into school any time to review or discuss resources and materials available to support the teaching and delivery of RSE.

Parents and carers are key people in:

Teaching their children about relationships and sex education
 Maintaining the culture and ethos of the family
 Helping their children to cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up

Preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities that sexual maturity brings

Parents/carers need support in:

Helping their children learn the correct names of the parts of the body

Talking with children about feelings and relationships

Answering questions about growing up, having babies etc

ROLES

The Role of the Head Teacher

The Head Teacher has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Relationships and Sex Education Policy is implemented at Northwood Primary School.

The Role of Governors

The Governing Body has a key role to play in the development and implementation of Northwood Primary Schools Relationship and Sex Education Policy by annually reviewing the common aims, principles and messages set out in the policy.

The Role of the PSHE Subject Leader

- To support colleagues in the implementation of the policy and scheme of work
- To keep up to date with developments in Relationships and Sex Education and disseminate information to colleagues, as appropriate.

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

All pupils, parents, carers and staff must be aware that staff cannot offer pupils unconditional confidentiality when a pupil first begins to talk about something where confidentiality may become an issue. Pupils must be reassured that their best interests will be maintained. If a member of staff believes that a pupil may be at risk of harm they should seek advice from the **DSL** Sarah Hussey or **DDSL** Sian Mumford.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

Northwood is committed to working towards equality of opportunities in all aspect of school life. All children at Northwood have the same opportunity to benefit from the relationships and sex education programme regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, gender or race. Teachers will apply the statutory requirements and guidance on inclusion in the National Curriculum and ensure lessons and activities are accessible to all pupils.

REVIEW

The Relationships and Sex Education policy will be reviewed annually.

Linked Policies

Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Anti-bullying, Science action plan,

This Policy is developed in line with the current DfE policy of [Relationships and Sex Education](#)