Sex and Relationship Education Policy
Water Mill Primary School

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School statement

SRE is lifelong learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships and sexual health. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes. SRE has a key part to play in the personal, social, moral and spiritual development of young people. DFES guidance 2000 states ‘It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity this would be inappropriate teaching.’ It begins informally in the home with parents and carers long before any formal education takes place at school. Young people’s entitlement to SRE is enshrined in the terms of the Education Act (1996).

Aims and Objectives of SRE

- To provide clear guidance for parents, staff and governors.

- Through a moral and values framework reflecting the school philosophy and ethos encourage the values of respect for self and others, responsibility for their own actions and responsibility for family, friends, school and the community.

The following aims compliment the Science curriculum, (KS1 – 1b, 2a, 2f, 4a, KS2– 1a, 2f).

- to have the confidence and self esteem to value themselves and others

- to understand about the range of relationships, including the importance of family and stability for the care and support of children (be aware of different family situations)

- to develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships and encourage maturity as they move responsibly into adolescence.

- to be able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work

- to be prepared for puberty by supporting pupils through their physical, emotional and moral development.

- to understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within relationships whether sexual or otherwise (e.g. use of sexual language)

- to be able to recognise unsafe situations and be able to protect themselves and ask for
help and support

- to understand the role the media plays in forming attitudes
- to develop skills and understanding to enable pupils to make healthy responsible choices about their health and well being.

Content & Organisation

The school aims to provide a programme of sex and relationships (SRE) education in line with the Personal Social Health Citizenship Education (PSHCE) scheme of work.

During Key Stage 2 – (Year 5 upwards) children will be shown videos to impart information and offer opportunity for questions. The videos we use are Channel 4, All about us - Living and Growing, Units 2 and 3. (these videos can be viewed in school by parents on request) Additional resources from the Birmingham Health Education Unit are available for use as required. Boys and girls will watch the programme separately and will include follow-up discussion with staff and school nurse. We shall attempt to deal with questions in a sensitive, open, frank, and matter of fact way. Questions concerning homosexuality, sexually transmitted diseases and contraception will be answered if raised and deemed appropriate.

In addition the biological aspects of human reproduction will be taught through the Science curriculum in Year 4.

Specific Issues

Confidentiality

All must be aware that 100% confidentiality cannot be assured, for suspected child protection concerns the school must follow the LA policy and procedure.

Policy Development and Dissemination

This policy has been developed by consultation with parents, staff, governors and the wider community. It will appear in the school prospectus.

Staff Responsibilities

To reassure parents/carers, pupils and governors that the personal beliefs and attitudes of staffs will not influence the teaching of SRE, all those contributing to the programme are expected to work within the aims listed above as staff have a responsibility to ensure the safety and welfare of their pupils. They are in a particular position of trust (in loco parentis).

Procedures for Pupil Withdrawal from SRE

A pupil cannot be withdrawn from sex education where this is taught in the Science National Curriculum. Hence children who are withdrawn from PSHCE lessons will still receive biological information but not taught in the context of relationships. In the instance that the right to withdrawal is exercised, parents/carers should be made aware that SRE could arise naturally from class discussion.
Children whose parents/carers exact their right to withdraw them from SRE will be temporarily transferred to an alternative class.

Equal opportunities

The school’s SRE policy and programme will reflect the ethos of the school, by providing a secure, non judgemental environment in which to learn. All pupils will be treated equally regardless of gender, race, disability and social background.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Teachers and PSHCE leader and the Head Teacher will undertake informal evaluation. The policy will be renewed annually unless a more immediate response in regard to new guidance is required.

Policy Reviewed Autumn 2017

Agreed by governors:

Signed: