

Woodlands Park Primary

Relationship and Sex Education Policy (RSE)



Legal Background

According to the National Curriculum 2014: sex and relationship education (SRE) is compulsory from age 11 onwards. It involves teaching children about reproduction, sexuality and sexual health. It does not promote early sexual activity or any particular sexual orientation.

Some parts of sex and relationship education are compulsory - these are part of the national curriculum for science. Parents can withdraw their children from all other parts of sex and relationship education if they want.

Rationale

At Woodlands Park Primary School we believe that it is essential to begin the process of teaching about relationships from an early age and therefore will now refer to this area of the curriculum as Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). The objectives are taken from the science national curriculum and are linked to PSHE long term planning where necessary. Across the age range, these objectives will involve reducing curiosity and dispelling myths by the provision of teaching accurate information. In this long term approach, RSE is a joint responsibility shared by parents, teachers and governors.

The Aims of the Policy

- To ensure that the school RSE programme meets the needs of all young people in the school and is developmentally appropriate.
- To emphasise that sex education is placed within the context of the school's science and PSHE programmes. Government policy and guidelines specify that this should include explaining the importance of marriage and civil partnerships.
- To give information to parents about the programme so that they are aware of what will take place and will be aware of opportunities for involvement and consultation.
- To provide guidance for all staff (teaching and non-teaching) and outside visitors.
- To indicate the school's interpretation of all relevant legislation and the Local Authority's policy guidelines in this area.
- To indicate how the school's approach to RSE relates to other school policies, such as equal opportunities and child protection policies.

Guidelines

1. RSE will take place as far as possible within the context of the school's science and PSHE programmes of learning. This will ensure continuity and progression through the school. The programme is designed to be sensitive to the needs of and developmentally appropriate to each age group. The teaching of RSE will be set within the framework of marriage, civil partnerships, friendships and family relationships.
2. The RSE programme will be taught by the children's class teachers and teaching assistants such as those who regularly provide PPA cover in the classroom. The school nurse will be involved in some aspects of the sex education programme. Supply teachers may not be involved in the teaching of RSE at Woodlands Park Primary School. When possible 2 members of staff will be present during the delivery of the RSE curriculum.
3. Teachers will endeavour to answer pupils' questions honestly and in ways that are appropriate to the individual pupil's developmental needs. Teachers will refer children back to their parents if a question is deemed inappropriate to answer in the school context. It may be necessary to answer

questions individually if the teacher judges the nature of the question to be too sensitive to the majority of the group or beyond the majority's developmental and emotional understanding at that time.

4. We aim to prepare the children for the transition to secondary school in readiness for the science and PSHE objectives that will be taught in Year 7 as well as their own changing emotions and physicality.
5. Relationship education will be taught throughout the year. Specific teaching about puberty will be taught in the summer term.
6. It is our school's aim to work closely with parents in all areas of the curriculum. Parents will be consulted about the RSE curriculum and will be offered annual opportunities to view the resources that are going to be used.
7. Legal rights of parents about RSE: The parental right of withdrawal extends to all pupils attending maintained schools. Once a request that a child be excused has been made, that request must be complied with until the parent changes or revokes it. We may invite parents voluntarily to indicate their reasons for withdrawal so that any misunderstandings about the nature of the sex education provided by the school can be resolved.
8. We will offer appropriate materials to parents who have withdrawn their children from RSE so that they may use them with their child at home.
9. Appropriate alternative arrangements will be made for the children that have been withdrawn from the RSE learning.
10. This policy will be made available online via the school's website.
11. The other school policies which have information and guidelines which relate to this policy are:
 - the Equal Opportunities policy;
 - the Child Protection policy.

Teaching and Learning

Following consultation with parents and governors the following objectives and guidelines are used by staff when planning sessions:

<i>Year Group</i>	<i>Objectives and guidelines used by staff when planning sessions:</i>
Foundation Stage	Cut and Stick activities from Unit 1 Living and Growing about how living things grow. Understanding that all living things grow and many look different when they are adults compared to when they were new born. Clothed images only will be used.
Year 1 and 2	Sorting activities from Unit 1 Living and Growing about the similarities and differences between girls and boys. The children will learn the correct names for genitalia. The word 'clitoris' is removed from the resources used. Clothed images only will be used.
Year 3 and 4	Children will recap the correct names for genitalia. They will learn that bodies change as we grow older, into old age and they will reflect on how they have already changed since birth. They will discuss their future dreams. The children will explore how births and marriages are celebrated throughout the world. They will reflect on how death is commemorated. Objectives will relate to friendships including conflict resolution. Stranger danger will be a focus linking closely to use of the internet.

Year 5 and 6	<p>Pupils will create a class charter relating to confidentiality and sensitivity in class. The science national curriculum for Year 5 will be covered including explaining how humans reproduce. The vocabulary will remain scientific and there will be no imagery used eg the teacher may explain that 'the male penis is inserted into the vagina' but there will not be a diagram to accompany this. Images to accompany the teaching will be separate full frontal diagrams of the reproductive organs. The children will learn about the gestation period of various mammals. They will see a growing foetus in utero. When learning about puberty <u>all</u> children will be given the opportunity to ask questions confidentially. The girls will be shown sanitary products to prepare them for the onset of puberty. When available they may be given a sample of sanitary products to take home with them. The School Nurse will be involved in the teaching of Year 5 and 6. Boys will also learn about menstruation as part of the science curriculum. The words 'clitoris' and 'masturbation' will not be used. 'Wet dreams' will be taught as occurrences that prepare the body for being able to make a baby in the future. The word 'ejaculation' will be used as a term to explain this occurrence. The children will be taught how extra hygiene precautions may be needed as puberty begins. They will be taught how their bodies will change as they go through puberty and that this may occur at different rates. The children will have opportunities to learn about how different families are made up. They will be taught that puberty is the preparation for being able to have a baby as an adult when in a loving relationship. The children will learn that there are many different types of family units.</p>
--------------	--

In accordance with good practice, all teaching and learning is further differentiated for children with additional needs and in some cases (for example matching needs for a child with a Statement) a separate programme will be taught following consultations between a child's class teacher and their parents/carers.

As mentioned above all parents will be consulted about the materials used annually. They may then make the informed decision about whether or not to withdraw their child. This must be done by writing a letter to the Head Teacher.

Appendix

We use the government recommended objectives for PSHE as provided by the PSHE Association. We do not specifically teach about genital mutilation as stated under Core Theme 1: Health and Wellbeing; KS2; objective 20. We do not feel that this is applicable to our current school community.

**Reviewed & Approved by the LGB (Local Governing Board)
19 January 2017**