

Benfieldside Primary School

Sex and Relationship Education Policy

This policy was developed in response to Sex and Relationship Education Guidance DfES 2000 and National Healthy Schools Programme.

The consultation process has involved:

- Consultation with staff
- Consultation with the wider school community including healthy schools adviser
- Consultation with governors

This policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff.

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all members of staff and should be incorporated into the planning of both KS1 and KS2 as well as the Foundation Stage. It will be overseen by the HT.

What is Sex and Relationship Education?

SRE is lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care for family life. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

Principles and Values

In addition Benfieldside Primary School believes that SRE should:

- Be integral part of the lifelong learning process, beginning in early childhood and continue into adult life.
- Be an entitlement for all young people.
- Be set within this wider school context and supports family commitment and love, respect and affection, knowledge and openness. Family is a broad concept, not just one model. It includes a variety of types of family structure, and acceptance of different approaches.
- Encourage students and teachers to share and respect each other's views.
- Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on sexual matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment.
- Recognise that parents are the key people in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up.
- Recognise that the wider community has much to offer and we aim to work in partnership with health professionals and other mentors or advisers.

Sex and Relationship Education in this school has three main elements:

Attitudes and Values-the importance of values, individual conscience and moral choices. The importance of family life and stable, loving relationships. Learning the value of respect, love and care and exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas, as well as developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.

Personal and Social Skills-learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively, developing self-respect and empathy for others, learning to make choices with an absence of prejudice, developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made, managing conflict.

Knowledge and Understanding-learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages, understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships. Learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services. Learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay. The avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

Aims

The aim of SRE is to provide balanced factual information about human reproduction, together with consideration of the broader emotional, ethical, religious and moral dimensions of sexual health. Our SRE programme aims to prepare students for an adult life in which they can:

- *develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour, have the confidence and self esteem to value themselves and others and respect for individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationship they want.
- *understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within sexual and pastoral relationships.
- *communicate effectively by developing appropriate terminology for sex and relationship issues.
- *develop awareness of their sexuality and understand human sexuality, challenge sexism and prejudice, and promote equality and diversity.
- *be aware of sources of help and acquire the skills and confidence to access confidential health advice and support.
- *know how the law applies to sexual relationships.

The organisation of SRE

At primary school level SRE should contribute to the foundation of PSHE and Citizenship by ensuring that all children develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships. That they are able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work, can protect themselves and ask for help and support and are prepared for puberty.

Within the school, all class teachers are responsible for delivering the SRE. It will be delivered on a rolling programme as per the PSHE scheme of work and topics will be repeated in a developmental programme to enable children to build on prior learning. Outside agencies will be used when available and where appropriate.

SRE will also be delivered through science lessons-see science schemes of work.

In year six the children receive a talk from the school nurse, parental consent is obtained before the children take part in this talk.

Key Issues

Parents are the key people in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up. All policies are available for inspection by parents/carers. The school will endeavour to work in partnership with parents in order that the SRE programme will complement and support their role as parents.

All parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the SRE except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum.

The school will have a clear and explicit confidentiality policy-teachers cannot offer or guarantee pupils unconditional confidentiality.

If abuse is suspected, teachers will follow the school's child protection procedures.

Delivery of SRE is not the sole responsibility of schools. Parents and other health professionals have much to offer.

Pupils with special educational needs will receive sex and relationship education and we will offer provision appropriate to the particular needs of all of our pupils taking specialist advice where necessary.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed as part of the schools agreed policy review process. Monitoring and evaluation of sex and relationship education will take place as per school guidelines.

In consultation with staff this policy has been checked for any breaches of the equality and diversity policy.

Headteacher signature.....

Governor signature.....

Pupil Representative signature.....

Date.....