

Policy and Guidance for Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)

Reviewed:	May 2016	Revised by:	Beth Horwell
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School Aims:

At Bishop Bronescombe School we aim to give all children:

- + Access to a rich curriculum which enthuses and equips them for life as citizens in the 21st century.
- + Opportunities to explore their own developing Christian faith and to have respect for the faith of others.
- + High self esteem by feeling valued as a member of our school.
- + A sense of fair play, treating others with dignity and respect.
- + The chance to enjoy taking part in a vibrant, forward looking school, moving their learning forwards.

Bishop Bronescombe School Motto is: ***'Learning that lasts a lifetime.'***

St Piran's Cross MAT Motto is: ***'Nurturing God's gifts with passion and drive so that all our children succeed, learn and thrive.'***

General policy statement:

All staff, governors, volunteer helpers, students and visitors need to give due regard to all of the policies and practices adopted by the school. Whilst it is acknowledged that people other than staff cannot be expected to read every policy before a visit to the school, it may be that further guidelines are necessary in addition to the Visitors' Booklet which people are given upon arrival. All staff carry responsibility for the welfare and success of the children in our school. Staff will advise anyone who is working alongside us of the necessary protocols, procedures and policies we follow.

Vision Statement.

- We believe in challenging education and have high expectations of what our children can achieve.
- We provide a safe environment within which we nurture each individual's talents and academic potential, through a balanced mixture of creativity, discipline and challenge.
- We foster each child's emotional intelligence, confidence, self-esteem and personal responsibility.
- We value every member of the school community as an individual.
- We strive to create an atmosphere of care, understanding and trust that will encourage communication between teachers, children and parents.
- We offer spiritual and moral guidance, teaching tolerance and respect for the differences and needs of others and actively promoting good citizenship as a member of a wider community.

Rationale.

SRE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It begins in the Nursery in how we socialise and work together as a special team that supports and encourages each other and continues throughout children's time at Bishop Bronescombe. It is about the importance of partnerships and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love care and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity, this would be inappropriate teaching (DfEE Guidance 0116/2000).

Aims and objectives.

We teach children about:

- The physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults
- The way humans reproduce
- Respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term and loving relationship
- The importance of marriage and family life
- Moral questions
- Relationship issues
- Respect for the views of other people
- What they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters

Principles

SRE should be based on the following principles

- The sanctity of marriage is an important belief in Christian teaching and practice
- Children should learn the significance of marriage and families as key building block of community and society
- Sex education includes learning about physical and emotional development
- Children will be taught the cultural and religious differences about matters of sexuality.
- Sex education is part of a wider social, personal, spiritual and moral education process.
- Children should be made aware of the way in which advertising and the media influences their views about sexuality.
- Children should be taught to have respect for their own and other people's bodies.
- Children should learn about their responsibilities to others, and be made aware of the consequences of sexual activity.
- Children should be taught to understand the power of sexual desire
- Children should be made aware that sex can be used compulsively, competitively and destructively.
- Children need to learn the importance of protecting themselves, and of self-control.
- Children should be made aware of God's forgiveness and that there is always a way back.
- Children should learn that it is important to build positive relationships that involve trust and respect.
- Children need to learn how to keep themselves safe when using the Internet and other forms of technology.
- Children need to be aware of responsible use of all forms of technology in order to respect the well-being and integrity of others.

Organisation

We teach sex education through different aspects of the curriculum. While we carry out the main sex education teaching in our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) curriculum, we also teach some sex education through other subject areas (for example, in science, PE and RE), where we feel that they contribute to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body, and how it is changing and developing.

In PSHE education we teach children about relationship, and we encourage children to discuss issues. We teach about the parts of the body and how these work, and we explain to them what will happen to their bodies during puberty.

In KS1 science lessons we teach children about how animals including humans, move, grow and reproduce, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body. Children learn to appreciate the differences between people and how to show respect for each other. In key stage 2 we teach about life processes and the main stages of the human life cycle in greater depth.

In KS1 PHSE/SRE/RE children begin to reflect upon the importance of relationships and learn about the institution of marriage. In KS2 RE children will learn about the commitment of people of faith to each other in marriage and how this is expressed in marriage ceremonies. They will learn about the beliefs and values that underpin this commitment and support the nurture and care of children in the family.

In years 5 and 6 we place a particular emphasis on health education, as many children experience the onset of puberty at this age. Teachers do their best to answer all questions with sensitivity and care. By the end of KS2 we ensure that both boys and girls know how babies are born, how their bodies change during puberty, what menstruation is, and how it affects women. We always teach this with due regard for the emotional development of the children.

The school recognises that SRE must be taught at both key stages and not left until Year 6. The scheme of work used 'Love and Sex Matters: Relationships and sex education in a context of Christian values' contains lessons to be taught throughout key stages 1 and 2.

The role of parents

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's sex education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supportive relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex education programme that we teach in our school. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education lessons, they should discuss this with the Head of School, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not want their child to participate in. The school always complies with the wishes of parents in this regard.

The role of other members of the community

We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to health education. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority, such as the school nurse and other health professionals, give us valuable support with our sex education programme.

Confidentiality and safeguarding children procedures

Teachers conduct sex education lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved, or likely to be involved, in sexual activity, then the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection. Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that he/she may have been a victim of abuse. If the teachers have concerns, they will draw their concerns to the designated person for child protection and safeguarding.

Monitoring and Evaluating SRE.

It is the co-ordinators responsibility to:

- Ensure that SRE occurs in the school's curriculum according to the schemes of work provided (Love and sex matters: Relationships and sex education in a context of Christian values)
- Monitor the use of teaching materials.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the school's programme.

The co-ordinator will be given the time to monitor and evaluate the school's SRE programme as it occurs in the school's schemes of work for each key stage.