



Simonside Primary School

Sex and Relationships Education Policy (SRE)

Introduction

The teaching of Sex and Relationship Education at Simonside Primary, using an integrated and consistent approach, is an important aspect of a pupil's education. SRE includes supporting young people in developing self-confidence in preparing for physical and emotional changes into adulthood. We believe that the teaching of SRE should be shared with parents and be mutually supportive and complementary. Our programme promotes an understanding of the range of family types and other people who contribute to providing children with the care, love and support they need to grow and develop,

What is Relationships and Sex Education?

High quality SRE helps create safe school communities in which pupils can grow, learn, and develop positive, healthy behaviour for life - (PSHE Association et al (2014) "Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) for the 21st Century")

SRE relates to 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development.' It is about understanding the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care and promoting the British value of tolerance.

The policy has been developed to ensure that staff and parents or carers are clear about the statutory requirements regarding Sex and Relationships Education, and that the pupils receive their educational entitlement. It is our intention that all children have the opportunity to experience a programme of SRE which complements our Science curriculum.

Principles and Values

SRE is required to be taught within a moral framework. Children will learn about moral values through all aspects of school life and in all curriculum areas, not just SRE.

We aim to:

- help pupils develop sensitivity and respect for themselves and others
- provide a friendly and caring environment in which children are able to ask questions and further their understanding
- support pupils in taking responsibility for their actions
- provide equality of opportunity for all children in a caring community in which each individual is encouraged to make a valuable contribution

SRE aims to:

- teach children about healthy relationships
- provide the knowledge and information to which all pupils are entitled
- help children to develop feelings of self-respect, self esteem, self -confidence, sympathy and empathy
- develop children's understanding of their rights and responsibilities within healthy relationships
- prepare pupils for puberty and encourage them to take responsibility for their health and well-being
- give them an understanding of the importance of health and hygiene
- develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media
- to develop care and respect
- answer pupils' questions honestly and sensitively – referring the children to parents where appropriate
- give them information on where individuals and families can get help and support

Our PSHE Curriculum.

Our PSHE curriculum is informed by the national guidance (PSHE Association 2014) and is based on three core themes.

1 Health and Wellbeing

2 Relationships

3 Living in the wider world

Our SRE curriculum fits in with the core theme of **relationships** and underpins the work carried out within this area.

Context

SRE in our school means that we give children information about relationships within a range of contexts, we do this with an awareness of the moral code and values which underpin all work in school. In particular, we teach Relationships and Sex Education with the beliefs that:

- it should be taught in the context of loving relationships and family life
- it is part of a wider personal, social, spiritual and moral education process
- children should be taught to have respect for personal health and well-being
- children should learn about their responsibilities to others
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect

Teaching and Learning including Delivery of the Curriculum

SRE, ICT, Literacy activities and Circle time. A planned and co-ordinated approach to each subject provides an appropriate framework for SRE to take place providing pupils with a consistent message. The emotional aspects of development and relationships are of prime importance.

The physical aspects of puberty and reproduction are also taught as part of our National Curriculum for Science.

Education about relationships for 3 - 7 year olds will focus on the building of self-esteem and confidence by encouraging learners to:

- respect, value and care for themselves and others
- value, recognise and communicate their feelings
- form friendships and relationships
- respect boundaries - their own and other peoples

Science

Key Stage 1, we teach children about how animals and humans, move, feed, 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.

Key Stage 2, we teach about life processes and the main stages of the human life cycle in greater depth.

In Years 5 and 6, we place a particular emphasis on health education as many children experience puberty at this age. We liaise with the Local Health Authority about suitable teaching materials to use with our children in these lessons.

We also ask the school nurse to come in to take sessions with the boys/girls to allow them to ask questions about issues that concern them

Year 5 - cover Personal Hygiene

Year 6 - Puberty/Body changes.

Linked with R.E, children reflect on family relationships, different family groups and friendship. They learn about rituals and traditions associated with birth, marriage and death and talk about the emotions involved.

Since SRE incorporates the development of self-esteem and relationships, pupils' learning does not just take place through the taught curriculum, but through all aspects of school life including the playground. It is important then that all staff understand that they have a

responsibility to implement this policy and promote the aims of the school at any time they are dealing with children.

The Role of Parents

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's Sex and Relationship Education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. We are happy to discuss our SRE programme and answer any questions and discuss the resources we have available.

SRE and Safeguarding

The SRE curriculum is taught in conjunction with our Safeguarding and Confidentiality policies. The policies are available to parents. We use the support of the school nurse to complement the PSHE and Science curriculum.

Procedures for Withdrawal of Pupils

Parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from some, or all, Relationships and Sex Education lessons, but not statutory Science lessons. We hope you will speak to us about any concerns you have about our programme. However, should you be considering such a step, please first talk it through with your child and their class teacher, and the PSHE programme lead.

Links with other policies:

PSHE and Citizenship.

Religious Education

Equal Opportunities

Safeguarding /E-Safety

Confidentiality

Behaviour

Anti-Bullying

Science

Please note draft guidance was made available in 2018 and Simonside Primary School should have a SRE Policy by 2020.