

**St Michael's CE Primary School
Sydenham**



Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Agreed by the Governing Body on: *7 November 2016*

Signed (Chair): *Beryl Fielder*

Scheduled Review Date: *November 2019*

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Policy Statement

Sex and relationships education (SRE) is a lifelong learning process of acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex, sexuality, relationships and feelings. Parents/carers have a major responsibility to help children cope with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up. The school will support parents in this task as effective SRE could make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions' about their health and well-being.

Moral and Values Framework

Consistent with the Church School Ethos Statement, SRE is based upon the premise that all life is from God and we are created in the image of God. We are called to love, as God is love. The Christian values of respect, trust, love, hope, joy and peace are embedded in the curriculum. Pupils' personal, social, health and emotional development are all promoted in the supportive Christian ethos of our church school, where all are respected, valued and encouraged.

Equal opportunities statement

The school is committed to the provision of SRE to all of its pupils regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity or faith. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds.

Organisation

The minimum statutory requirement for SRE is that schools must deliver the National Curriculum for Science for all children within the school. At St Michael's, SRE education beyond the science curriculum will be delivered in Year 6 by the class teacher with support of other members of staff or outside agencies (such as school nurse) as appropriate. In year 6, where possible, SRE will be taught to single gender groups in with a male member of staff to teach the boys and a female staff member to teach the girls. During the teaching of SRE there will always be at least two members of staff present.

Specific issues with SRE – withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education provided at school except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise their right are invited in to see the Headteacher who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the SRE programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed.

Confidentiality

As a general rule a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he talks to the named child protection coordinator who may confer with the Headteacher before any decisions is made. The child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and reasons why.

Content

	Statutory objectives from the science curriculum which will raise awareness of Sex and Relationship Education
EY	Body awareness, friends, families, being safe, strangers, personal hygiene (washing hands – toilet/food)
1	Animals, including humans Pupils should be taught to identify, name, draw and label the basic external parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.
2	Animals, including humans Pupils should be taught to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice that humans can produce offspring and these grow into children and adults. The focus is that pupils recognise that living things grow and not to understand how reproduction takes place. • Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amount of different types of food, and hygiene. Suggesting ways of keeping healthy, taking part in healthy activities.
3	Animals, including humans Pupils should be taught to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify that humans need the right types and amount of nutrition, and they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat. • Look at the importance of nutrition and the effects it has for the body.
4	n/a
5	All living things and their habitats Pupils should be taught to describe the life processes of reproduction in some plants and animals - children should find out about different types of reproduction, including sexual reproduction in plants and animals. Animals, including humans Pupils should be taught to describe the changes as humans develop to old age - children should draw a timeline to indicate stages in the growth and development of humans. They should learn about the physical and emotional changes experienced in puberty specific to boys and girls. They should learn about the stages in growth and development in humans.
6	Animals, including humans Pupils should be taught to recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function. <u><i>In addition to science objectives, the following objectives will be taught in Year 6. These objectives are specific to SRE and not statutory</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To understand how babies are made and to know that it is possible to prevent fertilization To understand that safe routines can stop the spread of viruses including HIV</i> • <i>To understand how babies are born</i> • <i>To understand what sex is and to develop an appreciation of relationships where sex would be appropriate. To understand about different relationships with different people, including marriage (being sensitive to Christianity). To consider how <u>sex</u> is presented in the media</i> • <i>To be aware of the skills necessary for parenting and appreciate the responsibilities that parents have for their baby, in that human young are dependent on adults for a relatively long time.</i>

- *To understand the importance of making decisions for themselves and not succumbing to unwanted pressure from others – focus on smoking, drugs and alcohol*
- *To understand the importance of personal safety and what to do or to whom to go when feeling unsafe.*

Resource: Channel 4 Living and growing DVD teachers to be selective with clips

Respect to different beliefs

Staff are aware that views around SRE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all SRE issues are taught without bias. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect others that may have a different opinion.

St Michael's believes that SRE should meet the needs of all pupils regardless of their developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. Bullying is dealt with strongly yet sensitively. The school liaises with parents on this issue to reassure them of the content and context.

Dissemination

SRE policy is shared with all staff through the school and the policy is available on the website.

Assessing and monitoring

The SRE policy is to be reviewed every 3 years or as and when deemed appropriate.

Information to parents

Prior to the lessons starting, a letter will go home to inform parents about the SRE planned.

Hereby a sample letter.

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

This is to inform you that the children will be learning about xxx as part of the Sex and Relationship Education. The SRE policy is available on the school's website.

The staff is well equipped to deal with the sensitive issue in a very professional manner and we believe that the children will benefit by having accurate information presented to them in a safe environment. However, if you feel strongly that you would not want your child to participate in these lessons, then please make an appointment with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher to discuss this matter. We would far rather they hear the facts from us, rather than an alternative version from the playground!

Lessons will be starting (provide a date)....