

HOLYMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

Date of Policy:
May 2018

Members of staff responsible: Caron O'Toole/ Alyx Hunt (PSHE Coordinator), Kate Slatcher (Head Teacher)

Review Date:
April 2020

Defining Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) DfE Guidance
0116/2000

Sex and Relationship Education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the impact of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity – this would be inappropriate teaching.

Sex and Relationships Education is the right and responsibility of the parent. The school provides SRE to support parents in fulfilling their responsibility. If parents are not happy with what the school provides in its basic curriculum with regard to SRE they have a right to withdraw their child from those aspects of SRE not covered by the National Curriculum Science of schemes of work.

Rationale

As part of Holymead Primary School's care and welfare of its pupils, we believe we have a duty to inform and educate children about sex and relationships. Sex is a reality in children's lives and schools share responsibility with parents and the community to educate pupils about relationships, risks and consequences and to encourage them to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and practising skills.

Aims

Holymead Primary School believes that SRE in this school will be developmental and a foundation for further work in secondary schools.

The content and manner in which SRE is delivered at Holymead Primary School will be clear to governors, staff, children and parents/carers.

SRE in this school will contribute to the requirement of the Education Reform Act 1988 that the school curriculum should be one which:

1. Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society.
2. Prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The school will work towards this purpose in partnership with parents.



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Guidelines

SRE will be taught in the context of relationships. Topics and themes will be repeated from year to year in greater depth, taking account of the pupils' development and the spiral curriculum concept. The school will use the Jigsaw scheme of work

At Holymead Primary School we deliver the framework for SRE in the following way:

Each year group will be given objectives to cover from the Jigsaw SOW. The PSHE coordinators will decide what objectives will be covered in each year group in conjunction with the senior management team.

Objectives covered will:

- provide information which is easy to understand and relevant and appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils
- include the development of communication and social skills
- encourage the exploration and clarification of values and attitudes
- encourage respect for others
- encourage responsibility for their own actions
- promote the importance of family values
- encourage responsibility for their family friends, school and wider community
- reflect the diverse cultural and social mix of the school

Working with Parents / Carers

In KS1 parents will be informed by letter of upcoming lessons.

In KS2 parent meetings will be held to inform parents about the content of their child's RSE curriculum.

Holymead Primary School is committed to working with parents. Under the Education Act 2003, pupils can be withdrawn by their parents from the part of SRE that is outside the compulsory elements of sex education contained in the Science National Curriculum. Parents wanting to exercise this right are invited to see Kate Slatcher (Head Teacher)/ Caron O'Toole (PSHE Coordinator). She will explore the concerns of parents and the possibilities of adjusting the programme or approach and will discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. She will talk with the parents about the child's possible negative experiences or feelings that may result from exclusion and the ways in which these can be minimised. Once a child has been withdrawn he/she cannot take part in SRE until the request for withdrawal has been removed.

Where other faiths may have concerns regarding the content of SRE, Kate Slatcher (Head Teacher) Caron O'Toole/ Alyx Hunt (PSHE Coordinators) will speak, as a link, to any parents who have concerns in order to encourage participation and to help understanding or seek advice with outside agencies such as the SRE lead for Bristol.

Answering difficult questions

The school believes the pupils should have genuine questions answered in a sensible and matter-of-fact manner. However, occasionally a pupil may ask a particularly explicit or embarrassing question in class. Teachers will use their skills and discretion to decide about whether to answer questions in class and if so how. They will establish clear parameters of what is appropriate and inappropriate in class by discussing ground rules with students and taking an approach that encourages pupils to be mature and sensible. If a question is too explicit or inappropriate to answer in class at that moment, teachers will acknowledge it and advise the pupil, that at this stage, we will not be learning about that but when you



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are older you will talk about this at school. The pupils may also be advised to ask this question to their parent and carer. If a question is too personal, teachers will remind children about the ground rules. If teachers are concerned that a child is at risk from sexual abuse, they will follow the school's child protection procedures.

Confidentiality

SRE, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, can lead to disclosure of a child protection issue. Therefore, staff must be aware of the procedures to follow. It is of paramount importance that the staff are aware of the guidance and channels for confidentiality which appear in our Confidentiality, Child Protection and Safeguarding policies.

Review and monitoring:

This policy will be reviewed by the PSHE coordinators in consultation with other staff and as appropriate if changes occur or at a frequency not less than every 2 years.

Links

This policy clearly links to our school policies on:

PSHE

Drug Education

Health and Safety

Behaviour

Confidentiality

Child Protection

Safeguarding

Anti- bullying

Dated:

May 2018

Review date:

May 2020

Agreed by:

Kate Slatcher (Head Teacher)

Caron O'Toole and Alyx Hunt (PSHE Coordinator & SLT)



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