



West Kidlington
Primary & Nursery School

"Making our best
even better"

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

ROLE	NAME	SIGNATURE
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This policy was updated in May 2017.

The policy must be reviewed and updated every 3 years.

Context

In 2000, the Department for Education and Employment (DfEE, now DfE) published Sex and Relationship Education Guidance.

Brook (www.brook.org.uk) the PSHE Association (www.pshe-association.org.uk) and the Sex Education Forum (www.sexeducationforum.org.uk) worked together to produce advice for schools which supplements that guidance.

This advice states:

Teaching SRE is vital – done well, it is enriching for teachers and pupils alike. It also helps schools fulfil their duties to protect, safeguard and promote the wellbeing of their pupils.

What is Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)?

SRE is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. Some aspects are taught in science, and others are taught as part of personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE).

A comprehensive programme of SRE provides accurate information about the body, reproduction, sex, and sexual health. It also gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline.

Why is SRE in schools important?

High quality SRE helps create safe school communities in which pupils can grow, learn, and develop positive, healthy behaviour for life. It is essential for the following reasons:

- Children and young people have a right to good quality education and to protection from any kind of exploitation (being taken advantage of), as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Children and young people want to be prepared for the physical and emotional changes they undergo at puberty, and young people want to learn about relationships. Older pupils frequently say that sex and relationships education was 'too little, too late and too biological'. Ofsted reinforced this in their 2013 *Not Yet Good Enough* report.
- SRE plays a vital part in meeting schools' safeguarding obligations. Ofsted is clear that schools must have a preventative programme that enables pupils to learn about safety and risks in relationships.
- Schools maintain a statutory obligation under the Children Act (2004) to promote their pupils' wellbeing, and under the Education Act (1996) to prepare children and young people for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life. A comprehensive SRE programme can have a positive impact on pupils' health and wellbeing and their ability to achieve, and can play a crucial part in meeting these obligations.

The Department of Health set out its ambition for all children and young people to receive high quality SRE in the *Sexual Health Improvement Framework (2013)*, while the Department for Education's paper *The Importance of Teaching (2010)* highlighted that 'Children need high quality sex and relationships education so they can make wise and informed choices'.

West Kidlington Primary School wishes to provide SRE that prepares our pupils to lead safe, fulfilling and enjoyable lives and is in accordance with DfE guidelines.

Our Aims:

- To encourage pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles in order to be physically, mentally and emotionally healthy.
- To provide a safe environment for pupils and to support them to stay safe both inside and outside of school: safe from bullying and discrimination, and safe from crime and anti-social behaviour. The school will work with other agencies, where necessary, to ensure that children are well cared for.
- To encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour.
- To develop self-esteem.
- To emphasise respect and consideration for others.
- To provide support and information for young people and their

- parents/carers.
- To provide a basic knowledge about sexual health and human development together with an opportunity to consider the values and attitudes around sexual health issues.
- To ensure opportunities are available for young people to develop the social skills to enable them to make informed choices.
- To acknowledge the role that the parent/guardian may play and to work in partnership with them.
- To encourage pupils to seek advice and guidance from class teachers or people they identify as key adults.

Content and delivery

The teaching of SRE:

At West Kidlington Primary School we have a PSHE curriculum which covers relationships, staying safe, keeping healthy and feelings/emotions (Jigsaw Curriculum). This is a progressive scheme and builds on pupils learning year on year, ensuring that every aspect is covered at the correct level required for that year group. In addition to this, aspects of SRE are included in work for other subjects such as Science and Drama. In each year group, PSHE Education is delivered by the class teacher.

Monitoring is undertaken by the PSHE Subject Leader, Mrs Orton.

SRE has three main elements:

Attitudes and values:

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
- learning the value of family life and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
- learning the value of respect, love and care;
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas;
- 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 based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice;
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- managing conflict;

- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

Knowledge and understanding:

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, emotions and relationships;

Confidentiality

The school's work in SRE will result in sensitive issues being discussed, either with groups of pupils or with individuals. We will:

- reassure pupils that their best interests will be maintained;
- encourage pupils to talk to their parents/carers and provide support in this if necessary;
- ensure that pupils are aware that teachers cannot offer unconditional confidentiality;
- inform pupils that if an external agency needs to be informed, they will be told first and supported appropriately;
- pursue the Child Protection guidelines and procedures if there is any possibility of abuse;
- ensure that pupils are informed of sources of confidential help.

The use of outside visiting speakers and health professionals

Visitors are made fully aware of the school's SRE Policy. All visitors are subject to the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding policy.

The right of parents/carers to withdraw their child from SRE

We will endeavour to ensure parents/carers have the opportunity to watch films/images shown to the children that they may be concerned about. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from SRE except from those elements that are in the National Curriculum for Science. Requests should be made, in writing, to the Principal.

Parents/carers are not obliged to give their reasons for wishing to withdraw their child, but are encouraged to discuss the matter with a senior member of staff.

Monitoring & Evaluation

In order to effectively evaluate this policy, the school's Governing Body will ask the following questions on an annual basis or in light of any developments and changes in school:

- Are our aims being met?
- How can we tell?

- Have there been any difficulties? Why have they arisen?
- What have been the successes? What made these possible?
- What do parents and pupils think about our policy?
- Are there any local or national initiatives in which the school should join?
- How can the policy be improved?

Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if government guidance changes.

Links to other policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Confidentiality
- Anti-Bullying
- E-Safety