



Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Person responsible: Head teacher
Ratified by the governing body: Summer 2017
Date for review: Summer 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Anne Marie Renshaw', is positioned below the text.

Reverend Anne Marie Renshaw
Chair of Governors

Introduction

Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfE 0116/2000)

Sex and relationship education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of loving and caring relationships. It is about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

Research demonstrates that good, comprehensive sex and relationship education does not make young people more likely to become sexually active at a younger age.

Sex and relationship education will reflect the values of the PSHE and Citizenship programme. SRE will be taught in the context of relationships.

In addition, SRE will promote self-esteem and emotional health and wellbeing and help pupils form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships, based on respect for themselves and for others, at home, school, work and in the community. At Messing Primary School, teaching starts with relationships, builds on the need for trust within relationships before moving to the Sex Education elements. We believe that this reflects what we would hope for in real life situations.

Aims:

The aim of SRE is to provide children with age appropriate information; explore attitudes and values and develop skills in order to empower them to make positive decisions about their health-related behaviour. This should take place with consideration of the qualities of relationships within families.

The objectives of Relationship, Trust and Sex Education are;

- To provide the knowledge and information to which all pupils are entitled
- To clarify/reinforce existing knowledge
- To raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others
- To help pupils understand their sexual feelings and behaviour, so they can lead fulfilling and enjoyable lives
- To help pupils' develop skills (language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) and make the most of their abilities
- To provide the confidence to be participating members of society and to value themselves and others
- To help gain access to information and support
- To develop skills for a healthier safer lifestyle
- To develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media
- To respect and care for their bodies
- To be prepared for puberty and adulthood

What are children learning?

Every child is entitled to receive SRE regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, age, culture, disability, sexuality, language special needs, disadvantaged and looked after children.

It is our intention all children have the opportunity to experience a programme of SRE at a level which is appropriate for their age and physical development with differentiated provision if required.

This can be successfully covered by follow the outline given below;

Foundation

Children learn about the concept of male and female and about young animals. In ongoing PSHE work, they develop skills to form friendships and think about relationships with others.

Key Stage 1

Through work in science children learn about life cycles of some animals, understand the idea of growing from young to old and learn that all living things reproduce. They learn about the importance of personal hygiene to maintain good health. In RE and Citizenship, 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.

They begin to co-operate with others in work and play and begin to recognise the range of human emotions and ways to deal with them.

They also learn about personal safety.

Key Stage 2

In science, children build on their knowledge of life cycles and learn about the basic biology of human reproduction, including birth of a baby in years 5 & 6.

Children are taught about the physical, emotional and social changes at puberty, which include personal hygiene. In RE and Citizenship, they continue to develop an understanding of relationships within a family, between friends and the community and that there are different patterns of friendship. They will develop skills needed to form relationships and to respect other people's emotions and feelings. They will consider how to make simple choices and exercise some basic techniques for resisting pressures.

Sex and relationship education should focus on the development of skills and attitudes not just the acquisition of knowledge.

The organisation of Sex and Relationship Education

Mrs Halliday is the designated person with responsibility for co-ordinating sex and relationship education. Patsy Fitzpatrick is the designated CSE lead (child sexual exploitation). This policy works alongside the Child Protection and Internet safety policy, as the prevalence of social media and the internet may have influence on children's conceptions of sex and relationships.

Sex and relationship education is delivered through science, RE, PSHE, Citizenship, Literacy activities, circle and RE time. Sex and relationship education is taught by classroom teachers, teaching assistants and if appropriate, outside visitors, such as the school nurse.

A range of teaching methods are used to teach sex and relationship education. These include use of video, discussion, looking at case studies, drama and role-play.

Sex and relationship education is usually delivered in mixed gender groups however; there may be occasions where single gender groups are more appropriate and relevant.

The children in Year 5 and Year 6 will be given the opportunity to watch television programmes specifically on Sex Education issues. This is timetabled during the second half of the Summer term on a 2 yearly cycle.

Resources to teach sex and relationship education include fiction, reference books, leaflets and extracts from videos.

Channel 4 Living and Growing DVD Unit 1, 2 & 3

Sex and relationship education is monitored and evaluated by the Head teacher in conjunction with the Governors as part of the school's development plan. As a result of this process, changes will be made to the sex and relationship education programmes as appropriate.

Working with parents and others:

Parents will be informed in advance when the DVD's are to be shown and will be given the opportunity to view the programmes themselves prior to the children. The parents will also be invited to ask questions relevant to the teaching of Sex Education throughout school.

Parents are able to withdraw their child, with prior notice to the Headteacher, from all or some of the sessions when the television programmes will be shown to the children.

The teaching programme will be delivered by the class teacher but health officials such as the school nurse will be invited to contribute whenever possible.