

# Stanstead Nursery and Primary School

## Sex and Relationships Education Policy



We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and expect all staff to share this commitment. Our Safeguarding and PREVENT policies are integral to all other policies and practice and form part of our school life. Our aim is to ensure our children are safe at all times.

## Sex and Relationship Education Policy

### **Context/Introduction**

- "All schools must have a written policy on sex education which they must make available to parents for free.

Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfEE 0116/2000)

- "Children need high quality sex and relationships education so they can make wise and informed choices."

The Importance of Teaching, Government White Paper 2010)

### **What is Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)?**

The DfES guidance (0116/2000) states:

"..it is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance 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**

All primary school should have a sex and relationship programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the children. It should ensure that both boys and girls know about puberty and how a baby is born. - as set out in the KS1 and KS2 National Science Curriculum.

All children including those who develop earlier than the average need to know about puberty before they experience the onset of physical changes. In the early primary school years, education about relationships needs to focus on friendship bullying and the building of self esteem.

### **Aims and Objectives for Sex and Relationship Education**

- Sex & Relationships Education (SRE) aims to inform children and young people about relationships, emotions, sex and sexual health. It enables them to develop personal and social skills and provides them with the tools they need to stay safe.
- SRE starts at home and is received from parents/carers, siblings, friends, television, films, magazines, the internet and school. It doesn't just happen when we are young: all through our lives we continue to learn about sex and relationships.

### **Parents' right to withdraw a child from SRE**

Section 405 of the Education Act 1996 enables parents to withdraw their children from sex education other than sex education that is in the National Curriculum. 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 the National Curriculum. Parents should contact Mr Honey to discuss their desire to remove children from SRE.

School will strive to meet with parents who are unsure about their child's participation. This will often reassure parents about the content and these children may then take part. Children who do not take part in these sessions will have an alternative provision and may work with another adult out of the classroom and away from earshot.

**Process for Policy development**

In conjunction with the LA, all teachers received staff meeting training on the areas to be covered during SRE. Following this a knowledge audit was completed on children in years 2, 4 and 6 with parental permission sought. Parental questionnaires were sent out to parents in years 2, 4 and 6 with a 30% response rate. School adopted the Christopher Winter Project Scheme of Work and met with parents to discuss the content.

## The Christopher Winter Project – Teaching SRE with Confidence in Primary Schools

School has adopted the Christopher Winter Project teaching resource as its scheme of work for SRE. There are 3 sessions for each year group from Reception to Year 5. There are 4 sessions for Year 6 children. The content of each session is detailed below.

<b>Reception Our Lives</b>	Lesson 1: <b>Our Day</b> Lesson 2: <b>Keeping Ourselves Clean</b> Lesson 3: <b>Families</b>
<b>Year 1 Growing and Caring For Ourselves</b>	Lesson 1: <b>Keeping Clean</b> Lesson 2: <b>Growing and Changing</b> Lesson 3: <b>Families and Care</b>
<b>Year 2 Differences</b>	Lesson 1: <b>Differences: Boys and Girls</b> Lesson 2: <b>Differences: Male and Female</b> Lesson 3: <b>Naming the Body Parts</b>
<b>Year 3 Valuing Difference and Keeping Safe</b>	Lesson 1: <b>Differences: Male and Female</b> Lesson 2: <b>Personal Space</b> Lesson 3: <b>Family Differences</b>
<b>Year 4 Growing Up</b>	Lesson 1: <b>Growing and Changing</b> Lesson 2: <b>What is Puberty?</b> Lesson 3: <b>Puberty Changes and Reproduction</b>
<b>Year 5 Puberty</b>	Lesson 1: <b>Talking about Puberty</b> Lesson 2: <b>Male and Female Changes</b> Lesson 3: <b>Puberty and Hygiene</b>
<b>Year 6 Puberty, Relationships and Reproduction</b>	Lesson 1: <b>Puberty and Reproduction</b> Lesson 2: <b>Understanding Relationships</b> Lesson 3: <b>Conception and Pregnancy</b> Lesson 4: <b>Communication in Relationships</b>

### The organisation of Sex and Relationship Education

Sex and relationship education may be delivered through Science, RE, PSHE, and English activities. Sex and relationship education is taught by classroom teachers and may be supported by teaching assistants. There may be occasions when the School Nurse is involved in delivering SRE. It will be taught during the summer term of each academic year and parents will be made aware when it will be delivered. There will be opportunity, each year, for parents to see the resources to be delivered so they can reinforce learning at home.

A range of teaching methods which involve children's full participation 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 always delivered in mixed gender groups as good practise suggests that males and females understand the changes that the opposite sexes bodies go through as well as their own.

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

Channel 4 All About Us: Living and Growing - Alternative DVD

Resources contained within Teaching SRE with Confidence in Primary Schools.

### **Specific Issues**

- **Child Protection / Confidentiality**

Teachers need to be aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue.

The staff member will inform the Head Teacher / Designated Safeguarding Leader in line with the school Safeguarding Policy.

A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.

- **Dealing with difficult questions**

Ground rules are essential to provide an agreed structure to answering sensitive or difficult questions. This framework facilitates the use of an anonymous question box as a distancing technique.

Teachers will endeavour to answer questions as honestly as possible and may consult with other teachers where they feel necessary but if faced with a question they do not feel comfortable answering within the classroom, provision would be made to meet the individual child's needs.

- **Children with special needs**

Teaching and resources will be differentiated as appropriate to address the needs of these children in order for them to have full access to the content of sex and relationship education.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Monitoring is the responsibility of the head teacher and teacher with responsibility for sex and relationship education.

The school will assess the effectiveness of the aims, content and methods in promoting students' learning by lesson observation, sampling teachers planning, questionnaires to teachers and children and feedback from parents.

The effectiveness of the SRE programme will be evaluated by assessing children's learning and implementing change if required.