Godalming Junior School

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. If you have any concerns you should contact our Designated Child Protection Officers, Adam Samson, Andrea Crook or Karen Sutton

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

This policy was reviewed: Summer 2017
This policy will be reviewed next: Summer 2018

POLICY INFORMATION

In keeping with current DFES legislation and the Surrey Guidelines for sex education and after reviewing existing practice within the school, a revised sex education policy has been formulated by the personal, social, health and citizenship coordinator (PSHE) in consultation with the head, staff and governors. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff.

Due to the nature of the subject, this policy should be read and implemented in conjunction with other existing, related policies, including PSHE & Citizenship, Teaching and Learning and Equal Opportunities.

What is sex and relationship education (SRE)?

Godalming Junior School

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

AIMS

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

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society; and

- prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

This aim will be developed in partnership with parents and will lay the foundation for further work in secondary school.

OBJECTIVES

To help children to develop a clear understanding of their bodies, including the changes which have taken place since birth and those which will take place in the years ahead.

To comply with statements relating to sex education in the National Curriculum for Science concerning the reproductive processes in humans and animals.

To develop skills in personal relationships and encourage pupils to move towards taking responsibility for themselves and their own well-being, physically, emotionally and socially. (ref. PSHE Policy)

To develop a growing understanding of risk and safety and the motivation and skills to keep themselves safe. (ref. PSHE Policy)

Moral and values framework

The sex education programme will reflect the school ethos. It will also demonstrate and encourage the following values:

Godalming Junior School

- respect for self;
- respect for others;
- responsibility for their own actions; and
- responsibility for their family, friends, school and wider community. (ref. PSHE Policy)

Equal opportunities

The Sex Education programme will be given in accordance with the school's Policy for Equal Opportunities.

Where appropriate, pupils will be given opportunities to discuss specific issues related to puberty in single sex groups.

Resources and methods of teaching will be in line with the criteria set out in the Equal Opportunities Policy.

ORGANISATION OF THE SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Coordination

Sex education will be coordinated by the personal, social and health education coordinator in consultation with the head teacher, staff and governors.

Delivery

SRE is principally taught in year 6; however associated issues will be covered in the other year groups as part of the wider PSHE and science programme.

The aspects of SRE contained within the Science curriculum will be taught alongside the rest of the agreed programme.

National Curriculum Science:

(a) that the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, movement, growth and reproduction; and
(b) about the main stages of the human cycle.

Teaching and learning methods

- active learning methods which involve the children's participation will be used.

Resources

- video material will be available for parents to view prior to their use;
- various books are available to the children in the library; and
- other materials used will be available on request.

SPECIFIC ISSUES STATEMENTS

Godalming Junior School

Working with parents

The school is committed to working with parents. Under the Education Act 1993 pupils can be withdrawn by their parents from parts of sex education that are outside the compulsory elements contained in the science National Curriculum.

We aim to share the content and material with parents whenever possible and invite discussion prior to any component of the programme which may be deemed 'sensitive'. A copy of the Policy will also be available for any interested parent. Should parents then wish to withdraw their child, staff will be available to discuss their concerns and make appropriate arrangements.

Difficult questions

Sometimes children may ask explicit or difficult questions in the classroom. Teachers will use their professional skill and discretion before answering and if necessary deal with them later individually. Where appropriate, teachers will discuss the child's concerns with the parents.

Any sensitive questions addressed to non-teaching staff (eg. lunchtime supervisors, LSAs) should be referred to the class teacher who will be aware of the child's background and level of maturity to allow a more considered

answer. Similarly, if a child is using abusive terms or sexual language in the playground, the class teacher needs to be informed and appropriate action taken.

Confidentiality

Teachers are aware that effective Sex and Relationship Education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, can lead to the disclosure of a child protection issue. If a teacher becomes concerned that a pupil is at risk, they should follow the school's child protection procedures.

Procedures for monitoring and evaluating

Teachers will be required to evaluate their teaching programmes and feedback to the coordinator.

The Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis in meetings with staff taking in account feedback from parents and pupils.

Dissemination of the Policy

The policy will be made available to governors, staff, inspectors and visitors taking part in the programme.

Godalming Junior School