



Thistly Meadow Primary School SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

Approved by Governors (date)

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body

Chair of Governors

Thistly Meadow Primary School

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

Rationale

The teaching of SRE (Sex and Relationships Education) aims to help children through their physical, emotional and moral development. We aim to help young people learn to respect themselves and others, and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. SRE is embedded within PHSE and science; it is enhanced by our supportive school ethos, where all are valued and encouraged, positive relationships are seen as important and there is a safe and secure school environment, which is conducive to learning. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from those SRE lessons that fall outside the aspects covered in the National Curriculum Science lessons, however, very few parents do this.

Purpose

Through sex and relationships education we aim to help each child:

- To discuss attitudes and values
 - learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
 - learning the value of family life, marriage and stable loving relationships to nurture children (stable can be achieved by step families/single parents)
 - learning the value of respect, love and care
 - exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas
 - developing critical thinking as part of decision making
- To develop emotional 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 without prejudice
 - managing conflict
 - learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse
- To develop knowledge and understanding
 - learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
 - understanding human sexuality, reproduction, emotions and relationships

Guidelines

At Thistly, we have a legal requirement to deliver SRE as part of the science and PSHE curriculum in line with Every Child Matters. Children can not be withdrawn from those elements specified in the science curriculum as set out below.

Key Stage 1

- 1b that animals including humans move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
- 2a to recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans
- 2f that humans and animals can produce offspring and these grow into adults
- 3a to recognise similarities and differences between ourselves
- 4 treat others with sensitivity

Key Stage 2

- 1a that the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction
- 2f about the main stages of the human life cycle

Other elements of SRE are set out below. These are largely covered in PSHE lessons throughout a child's time at Thistly.

Foundation

At Thistly, children learn about the concept of male and female and also about young animals. Through ongoing work, our children develop the skills to form friendships and also consider their relationships with others.

Key Stage 1

Throughout the key stage, children at Thistly reflect on family relationships, different family groups and also friendships. They learn about different rituals and traditions such as marriage and the emotions involved. Dealing with emotions, both positive and negative, is tackled as situations arise and also as part of planned curriculum time. Co-operation and personal safety are also embedded throughout key stage 1.

Key Stage 2

Children are taught about the physical, emotional and social changes at puberty. Throughout key stage 2, there is a continued focus on family relationships, understanding between friends and the community and also developing those skills needed to form relationships and to be respectful of different emotions, opinions and feelings. Children at Thistly will consider peer pressure and how to make choices

against resistance as well as developing skills involved with growing up and maintaining personal safety especially in a technologically advanced society.

Year 6 cover a topic on physical, moral and emotional development as part of PHSE. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships within the family environment; respect, love, trust and care are central. It covers sexual development and uses a video, discussion and questions. It is about the children understanding changes they're going through both physically and mentally. It focuses on respect for themselves and also love and care. It is delivered in a supportive environment so as to enable children to confront concerns. More specific issues are dealt with in separate boy/girl sessions. Discussions are lead by the children's contributions and existing knowledge.

We teach sex and relationships education in a variety of ways:

- Regularly in timetabled classroom activities including RTime
- As part of PHSE we aim to help children develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about sex and relationships
- Teaching strategies ensure that:-
 - Attention is given to providing a safe and secure classroom climate
 - Ground rules are established to provide an agreed structure to answering sensitive or difficult questions.
 - Questions will be answered as honestly as possible but if a child poses a question they do not feel comfortable answering, provision will be made to ensure individual needs are met.
 - 'Distancing' techniques are used and also the use of an anonymous question box.
 - Staff delivering SRE know how to deal with unexpected questions and comments from pupils.
 - Children are given the time for reflection.
 - Learning experiences start from pupils own experiences or existing knowledge and provide a range of opportunities for pupils to learn, practise and demonstrate skills, attitudes and knowledge.
- All children should have access to SRE regardless of gender, religion or culture.
- Teaching and resources will be differentiated as appropriate to address the needs of all children, including those with SEN.

Monitoring

Monitoring is the responsibility of the Head teacher, Learning Committee also the PHSE co-ordinator. The Year 6 topic is closely monitored by the Year 6 team. Monitoring will take the form of assessing the effectiveness of the aims laid down in the policy, the content of lessons through observations, planning and work scrutinies. Children, staff and parents will also be interviewed. Children's learning is

central to all monitoring. The co-ordinator supports colleagues in the teaching of the subject by giving them information about developments in the subject and by providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in school.

Resources

A variety of resources are used in the delivery of SRE; some are kept centrally, however, those more specific to a particular year group are kept by particular year groups. Resources include books, videos and also ICT resources (Sense).

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