



## **St Martin's C of E Primary and Nursery School**

### **SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY**

#### **Governors' Statement on Sex and Relationship Education.**

Sex and Relationship Education is an integral part of our Personal Social and Health Education programme, an area which is considered important throughout our school. We believe that sex and relationship education is an ongoing process, which should start in the home and continue at school. This process should happen in partnership with parents. A positive effort has and will continue to be made to inform and involve parents.

The school's programme of sex and relationship education will be embedded within the school's PSHE curriculum and will help children to respect themselves and others. The programme is tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the children and is delivered by the school staff and invited professionals.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of any sex education provided, but not from the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction provided under the National Science Curriculum.

#### **Definition**

Sex and Relationship education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, family life, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

#### **Rationale**

At St. Martin's CE Primary & Nursery School we believe that Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship education help to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active and responsible citizens. Sex and Relationship Education is an integral part of PSHE. It is an intrinsic part of the physical, intellectual and emotional growth of an individual.

## **Aims**

- To value all loving and caring relationships.
- To provide a secure, sensitive and caring framework where learning and discussion can take place
- To provide information which is easy to understand, relevant and appropriate for the needs, age and maturity of the pupils.
- Encourage the use of correct vocabulary.
- To foster self worth and awareness, together with a sense of moral responsibility.
- To help the children to acquire and practise important life skills such as critical thinking, decision making, communication and assertiveness.
- To ensure that sex education is available to all children regardless of gender, ability, cultural or religious background in line with the school's policy on equal opportunities.

## **Provision**

Sex and Relationship teaching will be delivered via two areas of the curriculum. This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Equality & Cohesion policy which states how the school may promote equal opportunities throughout the curriculum.

### **1. Through National Curriculum Science where they are required to learn**

#### Key Stage 1

- That animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
- To recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans
- That humans and animals can produce offspring and these grow into adults.
- To recognise the similarities between themselves and others and treat others with sensitivity

#### Key Stage 2

- That the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction
- The main stages of the human life cycle

### **2. Through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship programme.**

Material used will be from a variety of sources as appropriate but will be based around The Yasmin and Tom resources, which are produced by FPA.

In class aspects of SRE will be covered through the Science curriculum. Specific and more sensitive issues will be taught through PSHE, mainly in the second half of the Summer Term each year.

Resources and expertise from appropriate outside agencies may be utilised alongside teaching staff within the framework of this policy.

Discussion will be encouraged at all times.

Ground rules for discussion excluding personal questioning of staff or pupils will be established.

We shall attempt to deal with questions in a sensitive, open, frank and matter of fact way.

We will build the child's resilience and knowledge so that they are able to say no.

Questions about sexually transmitted diseases and contraception will be answered if raised.

Difficult or explicit questions do not have to be answered directly. Teachers will use their own discretion in these situations.

Most groups will be mixed age and gender but if felt more appropriate, single sex or age groups may be formed.

### **Assessment, Reporting and Recording**

Notes will be taken of individual responses to SRE units of study and included in assessment of progress in personal and social development.

### **Equal opportunities**

Pupils will have the opportunity to participate in SRE. However, parents have the right to withdraw their children from the PSHE aspects of the curriculum after discussion with the head teacher and if the school is notified in writing. Parents are not able to withdraw their children from the science aspects of the curriculum.

### **Child Protection**

All staff have an awareness of child protection procedures.

### **Female Genital Mutilation**

FGM is carried out on girls of any age, from young babies to older teenagers and adult women, so school staff are trained to be aware of risk indicators. Many such procedures are carried out abroad and staff are trained to be particularly alert to suspicions or concerns expressed by female pupil about going on a long holiday during the summer holiday period. Any concerns are reported directly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

### **Staff Support and Development**

It is appreciated that some staff may feel less comfortable with this area of the curriculum. All staff will be supported with appropriate training and support and if preferred, alternative staff or visiting professionals may be asked to deliver the curriculum.

### **Governing Body**

The Governing Body is responsible for PSHE and Citizenship which includes SRE.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Leadership Team will monitor coverage and the effectiveness of this policy within the framework of the school monitoring timetable.

## **Policy History**

**Policy adopted by the Governing Body June 2012**

### **POLICY REVIEW TERM: TWO YEARS**

Policy Reviewed: March 2014, March 2016 (reference to FGM added), 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (resources updated, wording re building self-resilience added)

Policy amended: June 2013, September 2014