



*'Learning from Each Other' -  
'Achieving Together'*

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# Relationship and Sex Education Policy

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Date of Policy: **Autumn 2018**

Person(s) Responsible for Policy: **Head**

Committee Responsible: **C&S**

Term of Review: **Autumn 2019**

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This Policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Safeguarding policies which are available from the school office and the school's website.

## **Introduction**

The school's policy for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is based on guidance from the DfE (RSE 2000). At Swindon Village Primary School, RSE is defined as learning about physical, moral and emotional development, love and care towards others and about the teaching of relationships and sex. Through the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education, children will learn about attitudes and values, personal and social skills and will develop their knowledge and understanding.

## **Aims**

The aim of RSE 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.

- To help and support children through physical, emotional and moral development;
- To develop in children the skills and understanding to have the confidence to approach their relationships in a positive way;
- To enable children to move with confidence from childhood through adolescence to adulthood;
- To raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others;
- To encourage children to show respect for the views of others;
- To live confident and healthy lives;
- To understand the changes that occur to the human body during puberty prior to the onset of physical changes;
- To understand how a baby is conceived and born;
- To ensure children are aware of personal space and their right to privacy.

## **Curriculum**

Relationships and Sex Education is not a compulsory National Curriculum subject for primary schools. However, other subjects which are taught as part of our curriculum, such as science, cover aspects of it. For example:

*Year 2: notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults*

*Year 5: describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.*

*Year 5: describe the changes as humans develop to old age.*

*Year 6: recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents*

We strongly believe that all children should be aware of puberty prior to experiencing it and feel that all children should be aware of how a baby is conceived before leaving primary school. Therefore, at Swindon Village Primary School, we believe that all children who attend the school should receive RSE. Some aspects of RSE will be taught in conjunction with other taught subjects, such as Science and PSHE; however we also believe that some elements of RSE need to be taught discreetly following an age-appropriate programme of Relationship and Sex Education throughout Reception, Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2.

Resources to teach Relationship and Sex Education include carefully chosen, appropriate fiction, reference books, leaflets and extracts from videos. Parents have the opportunity to view teaching materials for RSE and any concerns should be discussed with the Head Teacher and/or Governors. When appropriate, visitors such as the school nurse may be involved in the delivery of Relationship and Sex Education, particularly in Key Stage 2.

## **Parents**

As a school, we feel that it is important to communicate with parents when elements of RSE are taught. Therefore a letter will be sent to parents informing them of when such sessions will take place.

## **Dealing with difficult questions**

Prior to each session, rules will be discussed to ensure everybody involved in the sessions (pupils and staff members) are comfortable with the content and respectful towards each other.

Occasionally content may generate questions which the children would not be comfortable asking in front of a group of children. In such instances, other strategies would be implemented to, where possible, instil confidence into such children so that any concerns or worries can be dealt with effectively. Such strategies would involve some of the following: single gender grouping; a question box/pot where children can confidentially ask questions so that they could be dealt with appropriately without a direct link to the child or staff providing opportunities for the children to ask questions within a smaller group.

Teachers will endeavour to answer questions as honestly as possible, but if faced with a question which they do not feel comfortable answering within the classroom, provision would be made to meet the individual child's needs. This would normally include direct communication with the individual's parents.

## **Safeguarding/Confidentiality**

Teachers need to be aware that effective Relationship and Sex Education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a Safeguarding issue. In such cases the staff member will inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, in line with the LA procedures for child protection and the school's Safeguarding Policy.

A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Monitoring is the responsibility of the Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher, Wellbeing KAT and Governors.

The school will assess the effectiveness of the aims, content and methods in promoting students' learning through discussions with the teachers and children and feedback from parents. The effectiveness of the RSE programme will be evaluated by assessing children's learning and implementing change if required in consultation with the teachers involved in delivering the lessons.

**Review**

This Policy was adopted formally in June 2016. It will be reviewed annually in line with the Governors' Timetable for Policy Review and in consultation with staff, pupils, governors and parents.

Signed..... (Head Teacher)

Signed..... (Chair of C&S Committee)

Date .....

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