



## **Inter-gender and Relationship Education Policy** (Sex Education Policy)

### **What is Sex and Relationship Education?**

“Sex and Relationship Education Guidance” was produced by the DfEE (now DfES) in July 2000. It defines sex and relationship education as a:

“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”.

It has three main elements: attitudes and values, personal and social skills, and knowledge and understanding.

### **Aims**

Sex and relationship education (SRE) will:

- Prepare children to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up
- Support the personal and social development of all children by allowing them to explore their feelings and relationships to promote self-knowledge, self-respect, self-esteem and respect and sensitivity to others
- Give children an elementary understanding of human reproduction
- Offer balanced and factual information appropriate to the age and maturity of our children and acknowledge the moral and ethical issues involved.

### **Principles of the teaching of Sex and Relationship Education**

It is important the sex and relationship education:

- Is taught within a programme which offers progressive and differentiated learning and which is sensitive to the needs of individuals and groups
- Promotes the spiritual, moral, social, cultural and physical development of children to help prepare them for the responsibilities and experiences of adult life
- Recognises the importance of loving and caring relationships
- Enables children to use appropriate vocabulary for all parts of the body and to be able to describe how their bodies work
- Generates an atmosphere where questions and discussions on sexual matters can take place without embarrassment
- Reassures children that change is part of the life cycle of humans and gives support to children in adjusting to these changes
- Promotes respect of differing perspectives in a culturally diverse society
- Gives opportunities for children to practise and develop assertiveness skills

### **Strategies for the teaching of Sex and Relationship Education**

Many aspects of SRE are covered in the statutory science curriculum, but this is not sufficient to equip children to make and act on decisions about their personal relationships. Therefore SRE will also be taught through cross-curricular topics and through the PSHE and Citizenship scheme of work. It will not necessarily be taught weekly, but where appropriate in Key Stage 1 (KS1) and Key Stage 2 (KS2) either as topics or discrete units.

National Curriculum SRE content for science will be taught during the planned programme timetabled for all children who will know:

Key Stage 1 (notation taken from The National Curriculum statements)

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

Key Stage 2

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

The SRE elements of PSHE will be covered through the following topics:

Foundation Stage and KS1 – me and my body, relationships with others, feelings and emotions, lifecycle and reproduction

KS2 – emotions and feelings, relationships, physical changes, menstruation, personal rights and responsibilities. These are designed to ensure progress and continuity across the age groups (see Appendix 1).

SRE will usually be taught by the class teacher as he/she is a person of trust to the children and the teacher knows what is appropriate to teach to individuals. The use of visitors and outings (e.g. farm trips) will be included where appropriate.

Teaching groups may include class, small group or individuals according to the sensitivity of the subject matter and individual personal needs. Teachers will be prepared to respond to children's questions as and when they arise.

A wide range of teaching and learning methods will be employed such as discussion, problem solving, circle time, drama, games, videos etc.

**Additional Specific Sex and Relationships Education**

**Key Stage 2**

**Year 4**

Television Sex Education Programme

This will be shown to boys and girls together and will include the following sections:-

**Living                  Growing                  Differences**

**Year 6**

Television Sex Education Programme

This will be shown to boys and girls together and will include the following sections:

**Introduction – Physical & Emotional Changes – Starting a baby (Sexual Reproduction) – Birth of a baby – Baby's progress – Respect & Responsibilities**

BBCActive SRE programme supported by the Channel 4 Programme – (3 hours) Boy Talk / Girl Talk

In addition to discussion about the physical changes which take place, in **Year 6** pupils will be given the opportunity to:

- empathise with the fact that people change at different times
- understand that sexual feelings are something that happens in private
- understand that even if they are physically ready, they are not yet emotionally ready
- learn about sexual relationships within the context of a loving relationship
- understand how to predict menstruation, and how this might affect them emotionally
- understand that they are in charge of their own bodies, and that they have the right to say no

Parents will have the opportunity to view the television programmes before they are shown to the children and to receive explanations of the way in which they will be used.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Children will have equal access to sex education unless specifically withdrawn from this provision by their parents. Parents may withdraw their child from all or part of the SRE, but children are required to attend all National Curriculum teaching. Parents should write to the Headteacher if they wish to withdraw their child from a part of SRE.

At Holly Lodge we will actively promote non-sexist language, discuss issues of equal opportunity and develop a positive attitude to variety and difference.

Sexual orientation – Discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation will be dealt with immediately and appropriately, in a way which preserves the dignity and value of people in society, without promoting their actions.

### **Confidentiality**

Children should feel confidence and trust in their relationship with their teachers. The teacher will respect this confidence when dealing with questions raised. However, they cannot promise that certain issues discussed with them will remain confidential. The teacher may involve parents, or contact other staff or an appropriate outside agency for advice, but in every case the interest of the child will remain paramount.

**Child Sex Abuse Procedure** – where a child discloses sexual abuse the Child Protection Liaison Officer will be informed immediately so that the procedures outlined in our Child Protection Policy can be followed. It will be made clear to the child that the adult is obliged to pass on this information.

### **Monitoring the Sex and Relationship Policy**

SRE will be monitored in line with the school monitoring policy. PSHE and science leaders will monitor the effectiveness of the planning and teaching. These Subject Leaders will also make sure that staff have opportunities for identifying and meeting their training needs.

Extra care will be taken to ensure sensitivity is shown towards children whose learning ability, maturity, experience of family life or inappropriate sexual knowledge may be a cause of concern. SRE should help all children understand their physical and emotional development and empower them to take responsibility for the decisions they make in their lives.

## Dealing with Specific Issues

Specific Issues	School Procedure
Confidentiality and informing parent/carers	Where an issue of Child Protection is suggested, children must not be promised confidentiality. But they must be reassured that information will only be shared on a 'need to know' basis, and will be treated as confidential. Where adults have a concern that a child is being abused, or is at risk of being abused, whether the child says anything or not,, they have a responsibility to report their concerns to the Child Protection Liaison Officer. All other issues will be referred to the Headteacher who will inform parents where appropriate.
Sexual abuse procedures	Refer to Child Protection Officer and statutory LEA procedures.
Procedures for pupils who are withdrawn from lessons.	If for any reason children are withdrawn from the non-statutory aspects of SRE. They will be placed in a parallel class with appropriate work.
Needs of specific groups – gender/sexuality/religion/ethnicity/SEN	Through training, staff will become aware of the different needs of specific groups, in relation to SRE, and how this might be relevant to children in their charge. Reference may be made to publications.
Answering pupils' questions in class	Generally, pupils' questions will be answered sensitively in the classroom. However, where questions are of a delicate nature, or cause concern, advice from the Headteacher will be sought before answering.
Referral to pupils outside agencies	Through discussion between the Class Teachers and the SENCO, referrals may be made to health, psychology or behavioural professionals. Parental permission will be sought in all instances.

This policy was reviewed in **March 2015** and approved by the School Governors at a meeting on **25<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

It is due to be reviewed in **March 2018**

Stratford Road, Ash Vale, Surrey GU12 5PX  
 T 01252 548 390 F 01252378 204 E [info@holly-lodge.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@holly-lodge.surrey.sch.uk)  
[www.hollylodgeprimaryschool.com](http://www.hollylodgeprimaryschool.com)

Mrs S Norman BEd (Hons) MA Headteacher



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE