



## Sex and Relationships Education Policy

### Rationale:

The Education Reform Act (Section 1) states that schools should provide a curriculum which 'promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and of society; and prepare such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.'

Sex and relationships Education SRE is an important dimension of this statutory entitlement. As part of our emphasis on the care and well-being of all our pupils we aim to prepare them to cope with physical and emotional challenges of growing up and to give them an appropriate basic understanding of human reproduction. This education is delivered within a moral, family orientated Christian framework.

### Aims:

At Appleton School we aim, through explicit and implicit learning experiences to:

- Ensure that SRE is fully integrated into the curriculum and not isolated, taken out of context or over emphasised in any way
- Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussions on sexual matters take place without embarrassment, and to alleviate possible fears by demystifying the subject.
- Nurture a partnership between caring adults including governors, teachers, support staff and parents, to ensure sensitive support for children as they grow and mature.
- Ensure that children have the ability to accept their own and others' sexuality.
- Foster and develop self esteem and respect for others as the cornerstone of good SRE, through skills in personal relationships, such as assertiveness and communication.
- Help children to affirm their rights. To be able to resist unwanted touches or advances and to communicate about such matters.
- Encourage children to enjoy relationships based on mutual respect, free from abuse, recognising the value of intimacy in loving and caring relationships.

### Teaching and Learning:

SRE is not taught in isolation, but as part of the PSHE curriculum. In the Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and 2, cross curricular links are used where possible to deliver Sex and relationship education, with a particularly strong link with Science.

The age and experience of the children is taken fully into account, with children being protected from teaching and materials which are inappropriate.

Through effective SRE teaching we aim to increase children's knowledge of:

- The human body
- Human growth and development

- Families, parenting and life cycles
- Personal safety and child protection
- Helping agencies including the school nurse

Effective teaching will enable pupils to:

- Improve their self esteem and develop self confidence and assertiveness in appropriate situations
- Make informed choices and decisions
- Develop personal initiatives and be able to take responsibility
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves
- Communicate feelings and concerns openly
- Maintain and develop relationships

We follow the Oxfordshire LEA guidance when covering all aspects of SRE and these are disseminated through an age appropriate and progressive PSHE programme.

SRE is taught by the class teacher but may be enhanced by the involvement of outside agencies as appropriate. Teaching is based on an understanding that a variety of approaches should be used in order to meet the needs of our children. Teachers attend CPD as necessary.

We value and respect the learning that occurs in the community and in the home, believing that these are an essential dimension of the SRE. It is important to involve whenever possible the parents and to inform them about the SRE programme within each year group.

Resources including ICT:

The school has a range of resources which support the SRE programme including the SMILE framework, PSHE materials and the Life Education programme. In addition we use the School Nurse service who also have a number of resources including DVDs and videos.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting:

As with other aspects of PSHE, the children's knowledge and attitudes towards SRE will be assessed informally by the teacher, primarily through discussion and observation in the classroom. Self assessment will also be used as a way of encouraging children to reflect and evaluate. Children's progress in PSHE is reported to parents on an annual basis.

Equal Opportunities:

We believe that all children have the right to a full PSHE curriculum, including the aspect of SRE, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion and ability.

An information meeting is offered annually to parents of children in Years 5 and 6 in order to inform them of the policy and to discuss any issues which may arise. Parents have the right to ask that their child be excluded from any part, or all of the SRE programme. In such cases, requests will be recorded and the child removed from the class until the session is completed.

Health and Safety

SRE is an integral part of the Health Education programme and complies fully with the Health and Safety policy. It enhances our Healthy Schools initiative. Menstruation is discussed in Year 5 and 6 in order to prepare girls and inform the boys. Emergency sanitary products are available from the staff room. Disposal systems can be accessed by the girls in the toilets.

Roles, Responsibilities and Monitoring

Class teachers deliver the SRE programme. They are responsible for creating an atmosphere in the classroom where pupils can freely contribute to discussion and ask questions, safe in the knowledge that comments, ideas and feelings of the group are valued and respected. School staff should liaise with the PSHE co-ordinator regarding any aspect of SRE programme or policy. The school's PSHE co-ordinator is Lindsay McClimont. She liaises with staff regarding help, support, training and contacts with outside agencies. She ensures that the Governors review this policy every two years.

The governors are responsible for making decisions regarding the content of the SRE programme. The Curriculum committee makes recommendations on the appropriateness of the policy and programme and monitors that it is delivered throughout the school.

Evaluating the policy:

The evaluation of the policy will take into account such issues as the following:

- Does the policy provide an underpinning for what is taught in the whole PSHE programme?
- Does SRE learning and teaching throughout the school reflect the aims and beliefs held within the policy?

Dissemination:

A copy of this policy can be obtained from the school office.

Relation to other school policies:

This policy should be followed in conjunction with the school's PSHE, Citizenship, Health and Safety, Gender equality, Social, Moral, Spiritual policy and the Child Protection policy.