

St Michael's CE (Aided) Primary School

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Rationale

The Education Act 2002 / Academies Act 2010 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 experience of adult life."

Sex and relationships education is an important dimension of this statutory entitlement. Sex and relationships education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It promotes understanding about the importance of marriage for family life; stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care as key building blocks of community and society. Sex and relationships education does not promote sexual orientation or sexual activity.

Aims

In our school we aim, through implicit and explicit learning experiences, to:

- Ensure that sex and relationships education is fully integrated into the curriculum
- Foster self-esteem and respect for others as the cornerstone of good PSHE
- Nurture a partnership between caring adults - governors, teachers, other school staff, and parents and carers - to ensure sensitive support for children and young people as they grow and mature
- Encourage children to accept their own and others' sexuality
- Encourage children to enjoy relationships based upon mutual trust and respect, free from any abuse
- Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on sexual matters can take place without embarrassment

Effective teaching increases children's knowledge of:

- Their bodies, human growth and development
- Families, parenting and life cycles
- Safety (including awareness of risk to themselves through the use of technology) and child protection
- Helping agencies eg NSPCC
- Sexual identity

It also enables children to:

- Improve their self esteem
- Make informed choices and decisions
- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility

- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others
- Maintain and develop relationships
- Develop self confidence and assertiveness in appropriate situations
- Develop the motivation to succeed

Within the taught and hidden curriculum children are given frequent and regular opportunities to discuss and explore their feelings and to practise personal and interpersonal skills. The school values and respects the learning that occurs in the community and in the home, believing that these, alongside school links, are essential dimensions of sex and relationships education. We involve and inform parents about the sex and relationships education programme in particular year groups.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the part of the sex and relationships education programme which is non-statutory, which is in the PSHE curriculum. Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from the part of the sex and relationships education programme which is statutory, which are those parts which fall within the statutory National Curriculum. In practice this can be identified as part of the Science curriculum. For example

Describe the process of reproduction in some plants and animals.

Describe the changes as humans develop to old age.

The staff at St Michael's Primary School are committed to deliver sex and relationships education within the broad and balanced programme of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), across the whole school and within a special programme in years 5 and 6.

Equal Opportunities and Race Equality

All aspects of sex and relationship education are taught in such a way as to include all children regardless of their gender, background, culture or physical ability. Learning objectives are set in line with our Special Needs and Race Equality Policies.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed and monitored by the PSHE Coordinator and by the Governors' Curriculum Committee.

	Staff	Curriculum Committee	Governing Body
Policy agreed by	17.01.11	12.01.11	09.02.11
Policy reviewed by	15.9.14	02.10.14	08.10.14
Coordinator	C. Archard		