



# Ditton Infant School

## Sex and Relationship Policy (SRE)

### February 2017

"At primary stage, the aim should be to prepare pupils to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up, and to give them an elementary understanding of human reproduction"

Circular 5/94 Department of Education

#### Statement of Entitlement

SRE is lifelong learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships and sexual health. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes. SRE has a key part to play in the personal, social, moral and spiritual development of young people. It begins informally in the home with parents and carers long before any formal education takes place at school. **Research demonstrates that good, comprehensive sex and relationship education does not make young people more likely to become sexually active at a younger age.**

Young people's entitlement to SRE is enshrined in the terms of the Education Act (1996).

#### Aims

The school aims to provide a programme of sex & relationships education (SRE) in line with the PSHE scheme of work and core British Values. This means that we want our children to understand:

- The importance of stable and loving relationships
- The importance of respect for one another, regardless of religion, culture or sexual orientation
- About physical, moral and emotional development

## How is SRE taught?

This is an important and sensitive issue and the aim of our SRE policy is to clarify the content of Sex and Relationship Education and how it is taught at our school.

SRE is not taught in isolation but through the science curriculum, R.E., Personal Social and Health Education and teaching about citizenship and British Values. Through work in science children learn about life cycles of some animals, understand the idea of growing from young to old and learn that all living things reproduce e.g. notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. They learn about the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene. In RE, Collective Worship and PSHE activities children reflect on family relationships, different family groups and friendship. They learn about rituals and traditions associated with birth, marriage and death and talk about the emotions involved. They begin to co-operate with others in work and play and begin to recognise the range of human emotions and ways to deal with them. They also learn about personal safety. Teachers will endeavour to answer questions as honestly as possible but if faced with a question they do not feel comfortable answering within the classroom, provision would be made to meet the individual child's needs and this may require further discussions and support from parents. At this age SRE is delivered in mixed gender groups.

Other adults such as the police, school nurse or other health professionals may be involved and all materials and resources used will be appropriate to the age group and emotional maturity of the children. The sex education parts of the Science National Curriculum at Key Stage 1 and 2 are compulsory for all children at primary school.

There are three main elements to SRE:

### 1. Attitudes and Values.

- Moral considerations and conscience
- Valuing family life, commitment, stable and loving relationships
- Respecting and caring for each other
- The ability to explore and understand moral dilemmas

### 2. Personal and Social Skills

- Learning to manage emotions confidently and sensitively
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others
- Making choices, without prejudice
- Appreciating the consequences of your choices
- Managing conflict
- Learning to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

### 3. Knowledge and Understanding

- Physical development
- Understanding sexuality, sexual health, emotions and relationships

#### Early Years Foundation Stage

Primarily children will learn about making relationships with others, developing self-confidence and awareness. (PSED) They will also learn about health and self-care. (PD) SRE can be delivered through planned activities such as circle time or staff may need to respond to comments and ideas discussed during unplanned conversations with the children.

#### Key Stage 1

Through the Science National Curriculum at Key Stage 1 pupils are taught to

- identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense
- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air)
- describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

#### Outcomes

By the end of key stage 1, children will have had opportunities to gain knowledge and skills necessary to build and maintain healthy relationships. They will have considered the effect of their behaviour on other people, and identify and respect differences between people. They will also recognise different ways in which family and friends care for each other. They will be able to explain ways of keeping clean and they will be able to name the main parts of the body. Children will also be able to explain how people change as they grow older.

#### **Parental Involvement**

We appreciate parents may have questions or concerns about sex education within school and as teachers we recognise the need to deal with any issues in a sensitive and supportive way. In the teaching of sex education we support the following principles:-

- . Parents have the prime responsibility in the rearing of their child.

- . All sex education must compliment and support the parents' role.
- . Sex education must take into account the views of the parent when deciding on content and presentation.
- . Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of sex education not included in the National Curriculum.

### Confidentiality

As a general rule, all teachers and staff will maintain a child's confidentiality. However if a child is believed to be at risk, the teacher may want to talk to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and, if necessary, follow the child protection procedures.

### Statement of Provision

Governors and staff at Ditton Infant School have agreed that sex education will not be formally taught as a separate part of the curriculum; however, as in line with the Education Act 1993 - Sex Education in Schools - children should be prepared to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up and have a very elementary understanding of human reproduction. As questions arise teachers should try to deal with issues such as physical differences between the sexes and human reproduction sensitively, factually and honestly.

### **Links with other policies**

This policy is linked with the following policies:

PSHEE  
Online Safety  
Equal Opportunities  
Child Protection  
Behaviour  
Science  
Anti-Bullying