



Church Valley Schools Federation Sex and Relationships Education Policy

The federation provides sex and relationships education to support parents in fulfilling their responsibility. If parents are not happy with what the federation provides in its basic curriculum with regard to sex and relationships education they have a right to withdraw their child/children from those aspects of sex and relationships education not covered by the National Curriculum Science Order.

Defining Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)

It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of secure relationships, including marriage, for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health. (DfEE Guidance 0116/2000)

The Aims of Sex Education

Based on the above definition the aims of SRE in this federation are:

- To enable our pupils to better understand the nature of human relationships;
- To enable pupils to see the importance of marriage and stable loving relationships for the bringing up of children;
- To prepare pupils for the changes that occur to their bodies, minds and emotions as a consequence of growth from childhood to adulthood.

In this federation SRE has three main elements, all of which are important for a balanced SRE programme:

Attitudes and values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
- learning the value of family life, marriage, and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
- learning the value of respect, love and care;
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas; and
- Developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.

Personal and social skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
- developing self-respect and empathy for others;
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice;
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- managing conflict; and
- Learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

Knowledge and understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships;

Moral dimension

The federation recognises that it is a moral body in its own right. As part of the whole curriculum the federation seeks to explore issues of right and wrong. The federation recognises that SRE is fraught with certain difficulties and whilst it acknowledges different life style choices it promotes a view that stable loving relationships are the best context for sexual relationships and the bringing-up of children.

Content of the federations SRE programme

The content of the federations programme is based on the National Curriculum Science Order and the non-statutory guidance for PSHE/Ct contained in the National Curriculum Handbook for Teachers. Here is a summary of that content as set out in the DfEE's Guidance 0116/2000:

3.3 At primary federation level sex and relationship education should contribute to the Foundation of PSHE and Citizenship by ensuring that all children:

- develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships;
- are able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work;
- can protect themselves and ask for help and support; and
- Are prepared for puberty.

National Curriculum Science

Key Stage 1

1. b) that animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
2. a) 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 federation recognises that SRE must be taught at both Key Stages and not left until Year 6. Whenever SRE appears in the federation's PSHE/Ct programme in a discrete fashion the class teacher will inform parents about the issues to be covered and seek their support in exploring these issues in the home context.

The delivery of SRE

All teachers are responsible for teaching about and modelling good relationships within federation. Much of the general work in federation is based on good relationships and in this regard SRE is supported by the federation's behaviour management policy. It is also the responsibility of the whole staff to deliver the National Curriculum Science Order according to the Scheme of Work. Where specific sex education occurs, which is outside or beyond the National Curriculum Science Order, School nursing support will be called upon as appropriately trained and competent professionals able to deliver this part of the federation's basic curriculum.

The head teacher is responsible for the overall co-ordination and monitoring of SRE within the federation's curriculum.

Methods of teaching and resourcing

In the delivery of SRE teachers will use a variety of teaching methods and resources. The following are recognised methods for the effective delivery of SRE:

- Discussion
- Drama and role play
- Research and presentation.

Teachers will also use other teaching methods to enable pupils to learn about SRE. Which are age appropriate, taking into account the developmental needs of individual pupils. Parents are welcome to discuss with teachers their approach to SRE and the methods of teaching and learning to be used.

The federation uses a wide variety of resources, including videos and books. Parents are welcome to view these materials and may borrow them from federation to support the sex education of their children in the home context. Books used to support SRE are also found in the federation library and pupils may borrow them when and as need occurs. Resources used by the federation are produced for federations by educational publishers and are intended for pupils in the light of best current research into SRE.

Monitoring and evaluating SRE

It is the responsibility of the head teacher and deputy head teacher to:

- a) Ensure that SRE occurs in the federation's curriculum according to the schemes of work for Science and PSHE/Ct;
- b) Monitor the use of teaching and learning styles;
- c) Monitor the use of teaching materials;
- d) Evaluate the effectiveness of the federations programme

Dealing with sensitive issues

Teachers need to be sure that they are aware of issues that may arise out of teaching and learning about SRE. The following are protocols for discussion based lessons with pupils:

- no one (teacher or pupil) will have to answer a personal question;
- no one will be forced to take part in a discussion;
- only the correct names for body parts will be used;
- meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way; and
- Teachers may use their discretion in responding to questions and may say that the appropriate person to answer that question is the parent.

Where a member of staff is concerned that a child protection/safeguarding issue is arising it is his/her responsibility to follow the federation's policy in this matter to the letter.

Parental right to withdrawal from SRE

As stated above parents have the right to withdraw their pupils from SRE that falls outside the National Curriculum Science Order. They do so in writing to the Head teacher. When the Head teacher receives such a letter he/she will invite the parents to a meeting, at which the Head teacher will explain clearly what the federation's policy is and seek to accommodate the wishes and/or concerns of the parents. If that is not possible the pupil will be withdrawn from SRE and placed in another class where suitable work and supervision will be provided

Policy review

The federation’s governing body forms the SRE policy and it will review this policy every two years from the date below.

The federation will do this by forming focus groups that will look at the policy and its effectiveness.

This policy was agreed on

Head teacher.....

SRE Co-ordinator.....

Governor