

# WELLESLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

### 1. **Rationale**

This policy has been written to meet the requirements and principles of the DfES (as outlined in the PSHE and C Framework in Curriculum 2000). It should be empowering for all pupils regardless of sexuality, gender, ethnicity, faith, ability or disability.

#### Definition

Sex and Relationship Education is education for personal growth and development. It

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development of children at school and in society;
- prepares children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life;
- teaches about sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity.

### 2. **Aims**

- To develop children's communication skills
- To develop and maintain children's self-esteem
- To build positive attitudes
- To provide children with access to correct information about their bodies and those of the opposite sex
- To develop acceptable vocabulary in children for communication about their bodies
- To prepare children for puberty
- To provide children with knowledge about the process of human reproduction and sexual health
- To enable children to acquire skills and attitudes which prepare them to learn about loving and stable relationships
- To provide the opportunity for children to understand and cope with personal safety, helping them to develop critical thinking as part of decision-making and exercise some basic techniques for resisting peer pressure

### 4. **Guidelines**

SRE is taught within the school's programmes for

- PSHE
- Science
- RE

The programme of SRE will be appropriate to the children's age, maturity and experience and will be presented within a moral, family-orientated framework.

Teachers will attempt to give straightforward, factual answers to questions, whilst making judgements such as: -

- whether to answer immediately or a later time

- whether to answer in the whole class situation or on an individual basis;
- in what depth to frame the answer
- whether to refer the questions to parents

Strategies for teaching about HIV/AIDS will be addressed in more details through the Science Programme of study for micro-organisms and viruses.

In delivering the programme for SRE the school will seek the advice of the School Health Nurse and other experts, where appropriate.

Staff will be sensitive to the range of different family situations and groupings.

Wherever possible teachers will use the correct biological terms explaining, if necessary, their relationship to euphemisms more familiar to the individual concerned. It is vital that language used is clear, agreed by all staff and is non-offensive. All such judgements must take into account the age and maturity of the children.

Parents have the right to withdraw children from all or part of SRE provided at school except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum 2000.

Parents should be told when SRE will take place in Years 5 & 6 and should have the opportunity to view materials used beforehand.

## 5. **Content**

Topics covered will include

- ❖ Making friends
- ❖ Naming body parts
- ❖ Respecting personal space and boundaries
- ❖ Relationships with peers
- ❖ Feelings
- ❖ Similarities and differences
- ❖ Peer Pressure
- ❖ Puberty - my changing body
- ❖ Family units
- ❖ Sex Education
- ❖ Decision making
- ❖ Keeping healthy
- ❖ Media influences

## 6. **Delivery**

- SRE will be delivered through themes and topics as identified in the school's PSHE and C/RE schemes of work; in the objectives in Curriculum 2000, and in the Science units in the school's Science scheme of work.
- All topics will be introduced at the appropriate stage in a child's learning and personal development
- Work will be covered with individuals, groups or whole class, as appropriate
- Aspects of SRE will be delivered by the class teacher, school nurse and/or other invited visitors, where appropriate.

- Puberty education will be introduced in the latter part of Year 5.
- In Year 6 boys and girls will be taught SRE together.
- Following lessons on puberty and sex education children should feel free to ask members of staff questions privately. (Staff should ensure that there is always another adult present during these conversations.)
- Staff will aim to ensure that children have access to the same information and materials used in any missed lessons.

Pupils and parents will be made aware that teachers cannot offer unconditional confidentiality. Pupils will be reassured that if confidentiality has to be broken they will be informed first and supported as appropriate.

## 7. **Monitoring and Assessment**

- Evidence in teacher's planning of coverage of SRE
- Sample of children's work will be regularly audited
- Children will be asked to participate in an evaluation process at the end of their SRE in Years 5 & 6. This will enable staff to address any concerns and adjust future planning.

## 8. **Conclusion**

It is crucial to have a carefully formulated programme for SRE if we are to prepare children to learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. The school will aim to promote an atmosphere that allows questioning where any questions raised will be answered accurately with sensitivity and related to family life, loving relationships and respect for others.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's policy on Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship.

Reviewed: Spring 2011

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