

Governor's policy statement on Relationship and Sex Education

Governing bodies are required by the 1993 Education Act to prepare and keep up to date statements of policy on the content and organisation of sex education in their schools. In making this statement Governors have taken account of the National Curriculum documents for science and PSHE and Citizenship, Ofsted recommendations safeguarding guidance ' Keeping Children Safe in Education' and advice from Shropshire Public Health Curriculum Advisor .

Sex education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. It includes such concepts as, consent, healthy relationships, exploitation, keeping safe, managing risk and peer pressure. It is also about emotions, relationships and responsibilities and how we care for each other. In Shropshire we refer to this work as, relationship and sex education (RSE), placing the emphasis on relationships

RSE aims to help children and young people understand their feelings, emotions and bodies, how they are growing and changing, and how they will change in the future. It aims to enhance emotional and social development, helping them to understand the benefits of caring relationships and to be aware of pressures and possible dangers.

The work is integrated within science and PSHE and taught as a spiral curriculum in an age appropriate way. We are using Shropshire Respect Yourself, RSE scheme of work. This is a national award winning programme, which is cross phase, providing consistency of approach for our pupils as well as introducing an Emotional and Mental health curriculum. Trained and confident members of staff deliver the lessons in a way which is consistent with the ethos and culture of the school. Some single gender work or small group opportunities will be used as appropriate. The work is differentiated based on physical and emotional maturity and cognitive development.

The curriculum work is linked to and with our pastoral care system, the school nurse service and referral to other service providers.

The policy will be reviewed every two years. Governors will seek the views of teachers, pupils and parents. Parents are invited to attend parents' meetings to preview resources and discuss the work. The overview of the lessons is available on the school website. The Head Teacher and Governors are available to discuss any concerns. Parents are informed of their right to withdraw their children from sex education additional to that required by the National Curriculum Science Order.