

# Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School



## SRE Policy

Policy adopted: June 2019

Policy review date:



## **Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School**

### **Sex and Relationships Education Policy**

At Stocksbridge Nursery Infant school, Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is taught through a thematic, topic based approach. For example, the birth of pets may be linked by younger children to the birth of a baby within their family. Each question arising is dealt with sensitivity and care.

It is a legal requirement that if SRE is part of a school curriculum within a multicultural society, it should encourage pupils to have due regard for moral considerations and the value of family life (section 46 Education (No 2) Act 1986). It is a legal requirement that the science curriculum is taught throughout Key Stages 1 (2014). Identification of male and female species is specifically covered in Year 2. We **DON'T** teach pupils about the act of sex, or how to make babies.

#### **Aims**

The Governors and staff and parents SRE working group at Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School believe our Sex and Relationships programme promotes pupil's self-esteem, emotional development and resourcefulness and helps children to form and maintain satisfying relationships. This begins a lifelong process of relationships and feelings, acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex and sexuality in later life from Key stage 2 and beyond. Therefore, helping our pupils develop skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives.

SRE is:-

- Delivered as part of the curriculum and is an integral part of the PSHCE and science curriculum.
- Set in the context of family life, in a non-stereotyped way; referring to loving, stable relationships between adults and children.
- Correctly pitched with language suitable for the age and maturity of the children.
- Seen as part of the broader provisions for Health and Social development.
- Dealt with in a positive but sensitive way and does not cause personal offense or hurt.
- Sensitive to parents/ carers wishes.
- The entitlement of each child in school.
- Empowering for all pupils regardless of sexuality, gender, ethnicity, faith, ability or disability.

#### **Objectives**

By the end of Key Stage 1 (nursery through to year 2) pupils should :-

- 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
- be introduced to the basic needs of animals for survival; animals including humans. They should also be introduced to the processes of reproduction and growth in animals. The focus at this stage should be on questions that help pupils to recognise growth; they should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs
- Have a positive understanding of personal space and relationships; knowing how to express feelings of comfort or uncomfortableness in different situations.

### **Responsibilities:**

- It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to ensure that SRE is taught within the parameters of the PSHCE and Science curriculum and that it is the entitlement of every child.
- Governors will ensure that staff and parents are consulted about the content and delivery of the curriculum through a letter and meeting. Children may be consulted through the School Council where felt appropriate.
- It is up to the school to make sure that the needs of all pupils are met. This may mean more explicit teaching to ensure that children with additional needs are included appropriately in SRE.
- Parents are informed of their right to withdraw their child from part or the entire SRE programme **except for those parts which fall within the statutory National Curriculum for Science.**
- The PSHCE leader monitors and evaluates SRE teaching and learning along with the Science co coordinator.
- The PSHCE leader reviews and updates this SRE policy and materials and resources.

### **Guidelines for Teaching Staff**

Teachers are aware that:

- If a topic or theme that is particularly concerned with SRE is chosen, then parents/ carers should first be **forewarned** by a year group curriculum letter.
- Parents / carers have the opportunity to discuss forthcoming issues with staff and raise any concerns.
- The School Nurse/ Health Authority can provide guidelines and assistance in teaching this subject.
- The Governing Body has full confidence in the staff of the school and believes that the best interests of the pupils and their parents / carers will be served by the sensitive consideration of all matters in relation to human sexuality.
- The school follows Local Authority Safe Guarding guidelines and policies, relating to suspected child abuse and / or harm.
- This policy is specifically linked to Health, Behaviour, Science, Equal Opportunities and Personal Social and Emotional Development policies.
- Reference should also be made to other 'health' initiatives (stranger danger, healthy schools week, children's voice, anti-bullying week etc).
- Where children are visibly uncomfortable and upset with a topic, alternative arrangements will be sensitively made and followed up with parents/ carers.
- Where children ask for further information which goes beyond our teaching guidelines, staff will discuss this with parents / carers to agree an appropriate response, before responding to the child.
- SRE, PSHE, Citizenship and Information Technology curriculums are designed to ensure that pupils are taught the knowledge and life skills they will need to stay safe and develop healthy and supportive relationships. In particular dealing with the challenges of growing up in an online world.

### **Confidentiality**

All staff should be clear about the boundaries of their legal and professional roles and responsibilities. They should be familiar with the procedures set out in **DfE 2015 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' as stated in regular Safeguarding Training.**

Teachers cannot offer or guarantee absolute confidentiality.

**Right of Withdrawal.**

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of SRE sessions, except those elements taught as part of National Curriculum Science.

Any parent wishing to discuss this aspect of the curriculum in more detail is advised to contact the class teacher or Head teacher for more information.

**Please note** that SRE guidance from our Government is due to change during the academic year 2020. School will wait until further guidance from the Government and Sheffield Authority has been shared before working with parents to make changes to this policy. Our actions and decisions are lead by Sheffield Authority guidance.

Reviewed May 2017 – Loraine Mackie

Reviewed June 2019 - Alison Priest