

HARESTOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATUTORY POLICY

Sex and Relationships education

UPDATED: April 2018

Changes from previous version:

Self-esteem aim as this is integral to the overarching PHSE curriculum; Age specific information included in section 4

Date: Summer term 2018

Review Date: Summer term 2020

This policy sets out the way in which Sex and Relationship education is delivered at Harestock School. It is to inform staff, parents and visitors.

1. Aims

This policy is in line with DfE guidance (Department for Education Government Response: Life lessons: PSHE and SRE in schools; dated July 2015), the curriculum (Sex and Relationship Education Guidance; date of issue: July 2000; ref: DfEE 0116/2000), philosophy and the aims and objectives of the school. All of these underline all curricular decisions and the policy for Teaching and Learning.

We believe that Sex and Relationship education is an educational entitlement of all pupils and forms an integral part of their growing knowledge of life and the world around them.

We aim to provide this within a developmentally appropriate framework which is integrated with the curriculum and taught within a caring context.

In order to do this, we aim to:

- . provide factual biological information;
- . develop the children's understanding of the importance of personal relationships and associated feelings;
- . promote responsible behaviour and the ability to make informed decisions.

2. Content

The importance of Sex and Relationship education is recognised in that it provides knowledge whilst encouraging the skills and attitudes which allow children to act in a responsible and healthy way.

3. Organisation

- a) The strategic planning, implementation and review of the Sex Education programme is co-ordinated by the Head Teacher, Deputy Head and PSHE co-ordinator in consultation with Governors and staff.
- b) Issues relating to the Sex Education aspect of the policy are discussed at the relevant stages of the children's schooling. It is incorporated into other curriculum subjects, where appropriate. For example, in Science the children look at plants and animals. However, children

in Year 1 through to 6 participate in a specific sex and relationship education programme and parents are informed when this is to take place. Parents are offered an opportunity to watch any programme that will be shown to the children at a yearly meeting

- c) Delivery is through the two-year topic cycle and is integrated where possible.
- d) A variety of approaches are used including discussions, watching film clips, reading material, and other resources.
- e) Visiting speakers such as parents, school nurses etc may be invited to visit the school after consultation with the Head teacher. The more sensitive issues however, are dealt with by the class teacher. Visiting speakers will always be accompanied by the class teacher. When dealing with gender sensitive issues the children are separated into boys and girls to allow them the confidence to ask any questions.
- f) The resources used will include appropriate materials from the Hampshire Education's Health Promotion department, use of Channel 4 Living and Growing Unit 2, Life Education Wessex curriculum resources, and our own school resources.
- g) Courses are available for staff development where needed. Time is given for staff discussion and development of this subject each year.

4. Specific Issues

Age 3-6 At this age children are interested in the differences between boys and girls, naming body parts, where babies come from, and friends and family. What areas of the body are private and should not be touched and who they can talk to if they are worried are also important.

Age 7-8 At this age children are interested in the emotional and physical changes of growing up, similarities and differences between each other and between boys and girls, coping with strong emotions and how babies are made from eggs and sperm. How to look after our bodies and how to be safe and healthy are also important.

Age 9-11 At this age children are interested in knowing about love and the different kinds of families and will be more aware of different types of partnerships and relationships. Gender stereotypes and homophobia can be explained and challenged. They will be curious about puberty and sexual feelings and changing body image. They will want more details about conception, how babies develop and are born and why families are important for having babies. They will also be interested in knowing about how people can get diseases, including HIV, from sex and how they can be prevented. They will also want to know who they can talk to if they want help or advice and information about growing up and personal safety including online.

Family Values/Moral Issues:

These issues are raised within the context of providing a stable, loving and secure environment in which to raise children. The importance of caring and thoughtful relationships with others is stressed; children are encouraged to consider the feelings of others and to realise the consequences of their behaviour and act accordingly.

Contraception:

Contraception is briefly mentioned in the Channel 4 Living and Growing programme that is used with Year 6. It is not felt necessary to extend the subject any further at this stage.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (including HIV-Aids):

This is not specifically raised within the Sex Education curriculum. However, if a child has a question and wishes to discuss this subject, a suitable, age-appropriate response will be given.

Disclosure:

On matters of disclosure of sexual abuse school policy is to inform the DSL /Head teacher immediately; whereupon children services and the police are notified and the regulated procedure is followed.

Homosexuality:

This is not specifically raised within the Sex Education curriculum. If a child raises this issue, it will be dealt with sensitively. Any inappropriate use of language will be addressed and dealt with.

5. Complaints procedure:

Any complaints about the Sex Education curriculum should be made to the Head teacher who will follow the complaints policy, which is on the school website.

6. Parental partnership:

Under the Education Act of 1993 parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme (except those aspects included in the Science National Curriculum, Appendix 2 & 3). Parents who wish to exercise this right are asked to make an appointment to see the Head teacher in order to discuss the matter further.

7. Monitoring and Review

Sex Education aspect of the policy will be monitored by the staff responsible for its co-ordination. The policy will be reviewed by governors and staff (and using parent comments when relevant).