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# Lipson Vale Primary School - Sex Education Policy

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## A Policy for Sex and Relationships Education

#### Purpose

A key aim of the school is that each pupil will develop the skills and knowledge to make decisions. Decisions about how they relate to others can only be made if they have adequate knowledge and understanding of their physical and emotional development. This is not a task for the school in isolation, and we seek to work with parents to ensure that the teaching of sex education reflects their expectations and complements teaching at home. Parents of Key Stage 2 children will be informed about the teaching of sex education so that they can decide whether or not to withdraw their child.

# The right to withdraw a child

In Year 6, the right to withdraw a child from sex and relationship education is explained in the letter to parents. Information regarding the content of the scheme of work and how parents can access the teaching materials (online) is included. The school appreciates that for some children it is not culturally appropriate to address some issues. In this instance, there would be a dialogue between the school and the parents to ensure the cultural and religious views of the family are considered.

## Definition of sex and relationship education:

#### KS1/2

At primary school level sex and relationship education is a subject taught in its own right but should also contribute to the foundation of PSHE and Citizenship by ensuring that all children:

- Develop confidence and responsibility and making the most of pupils' abilities;
- Prepare to play an active role as citizens;
- Develop a healthier, safer lifestyle;
- Develop good relationships and respecting differences between people.
- 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.

#### Who was consulted?

Staff, parents and children were consulted about this policy and the contents of the schemes of work.

#### Relationships to other policies

Sex education forms an integral part of the curriculum policy, and the schemes of work for science, ICT (e-safety), citizenship and personal, social and health education (PSHE), and relates to the school's bullying policy and child protection.

# Roles and responsibilities of headteacher, other staff and governors. The governing body will:

- Decide whether sex education should be in the school curriculum and, if so, what it should consist of, and how it should be organised.
- Seek the advice of the headteacher on this policy, keep it up to date and make it available to parents.
- Ensure that sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the values of family life, and the importance of stable, healthy relationships.
- Ensure that parents are informed that health professionals are not subject to the school's sex and relationship policy when working with individual pupils. In these instances, they follow their own professional codes of conduct.

#### The **headteacher** will ensure that:

- The governing body is advised about the nature and organisation of sex and relationships education and how it reflects the aims and values of the school.
- Sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life and the importance of stable, healthy relationships.
- Pupils are protected from inappropriate teaching materials.
- A scheme of work is agreed and implemented, according to the developmental maturity of the cohort.
- Parents are informed about the programme for sex education.
- Support and training for teachers is provided where relevant and appropriate (eg: an NQT)

#### **Staff** who teach sex and relationships education are expected to:

- Provide sex education in accordance with this policy and in a way which encourages pupils to consider morals and the value of family life.
- Participate in training to provide sex education in line with the school curriculum policy.
- Implement the agreed scheme of work.
- Draw to the attention of the headteacher any materials which they consider to be inappropriate.
- Respond appropriately to those pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from sex education.

#### Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation

If appropriate, the headteacher will provide a report on the implementation of the scheme of work together with a record of parental and pupil complaints, the number of pupils withdrawn from lessons, and the number of teachers and other staff involved in training on sex education. Lessons on sex education will be observed in the normal programme of monitoring teaching and the judgements about the impact of the lesson on pupils will be included in the report. Teachers will collect evaluations from pupils and parents at the end of the Year 6 project and use these to inform future planning.

#### Recommended framework

It is essential that schools help children and young people develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about sex and relationships. Partnership between school and parents is the key to success.

Teaching strategies will include:

- Establishing ground rules with their pupils;
- Using 'distancing' techniques;
- Knowing how to deal with unexpected questions or comments from pupils;
- Using discussion and project learning methods and appropriate materials; and
- Encouraging reflection.

## Suggested programme of learning

YR-Y4: Celebrating differences (family life included), health and safety (self protection), morals, truth and honesty in relationships.

Y5: Keeping healthy, hygiene matters, menstruation (for girls).

Y6: Sex and reproduction, relationships and contraception, internet awareness.