

<p>Shebbear Community School Relationships and Sex Education Policy March 2016</p>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Shebbear is a community primary school for girls and boys aged 4-11. The school has children on roll who come from both single and dual parent families. In each year there are a few children identified with special educational needs. There is a wide social mix and very varied family backgrounds. The school covers a rural area and also has children who travel in from local outlying villages. The school has an active PTA (SSSG), which involves itself mostly in fund-raising and supporting the teachers.

POLICY FORMATION AND CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Head Teacher has overall responsibility for the Relationships and Sex Education Policy. The following stages were undertaken:

- The process for developing a Relationships and Sex Education Policy was agreed at a governors committee meeting.
- Consultation took place with health professionals and parents.
- The Head Teacher circulated the policy to parents, and the PSHE co-ordinator delivered a relationships and sex education awareness evening for parents, staff and governors. Resources were available for review and parents' concerns were addressed.
- This policy was originally adopted by the full Governing Body in March 2007.

The following issues were considered:

- Aims of the Relationships and Sex Education programme
- Moral and values framework
- Content of the programme
- Delivery of the programme
- Teaching approaches
- Use of visitors
- Child protection
- Withdrawal of pupils
- Monitoring and review of the programme

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Relationships and sex education will contribute to the requirements of section 1 of the 1988 Education Reform Act and the school curriculum should be one which:

- 'promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society; and
- Prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life'.

Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parents, from part of the relationships and sex education programme that is outside the compulsory elements of relationships and sex education in the National Science Curriculum.

Under the 2004 Children's Act schools are required to respond to the Every Child Matters Agenda. Sex and Relationships Education makes particular reference to the following objectives:

- Children and Young People are physically healthy.
- Children and Young People are mentally and emotionally healthy.
- Children and Young People are sexually healthy.
- Children and Young People live healthy lifestyles.
- Children and Young People are safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation.
- Children and Young People develop positive relationships and choose not to bully or discriminate.
- Children and Young People develop self-confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges.
- Children and Young People engage in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school.

AIMS OF RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

Shebbear Community School believes that relationships and sex education in this school will be a foundation for further development in the secondary school.

The school will work towards these aims in partnership with the parents. The aim of the Relationships and Sex Education Policy is to clarify the content and manner in which sex and relationships education will be delivered in this school.

MORAL AND VALUES FRAMEWORK

The relationships and sex education programme will reflect the school's over-arching aims and demonstrate and encourage the following values:

- Respect for self.
- Respect for others.
- Responsibility for their own actions.
- Responsibility for their family, friends, school and wider community.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

This school is committed to working towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life. All resources used will support this commitment.

CONTENT

The relationships and sex education programme will:

- Provide information that is relevant and appropriate to the age and developmental stage of the pupils.
- Develop skills of assertiveness, communication and effective dialogue in relationships.
- Encourage the understanding of values and attitudes.
- Foster self-esteem, positive self-image and confidence.

Topics and themes will be revisited from year to year taking into account the pupils' development.

The content of the relationships and sex education programme including learning outcomes will be based on the QCA 'How the Body Works and Changes in Puberty ' scheme of work.

Topics will include:

- My feelings and relationships.
- My healthy body.
- Lifestyles and culture.
- Growing up.

Delivery will be:

- As topics
- Through planned aspects of science.
- Addressed occasionally in assembly time.
- Through planned visits from parents and younger and older siblings.
- Through pastoral time.
- Through small group work.
- Through story time.
- Through PSHE lessons.

Active learning methods which involve pupils' full participation will be used. Single sex groups will be used as and when deemed appropriate.

The resources used for Years 5 and 6 will be made available for parents to view at the consultation meeting. Individual parents can also view resources by contacting the Head Teacher direct. Shebbear Community School is committed to working towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life. All resources and teaching methods used will support this commitment.

SPECIFIC ISSUES STATEMENTS

Working with parents and pupil withdrawal procedures

Shebbear Community School is committed to working with parents. Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parent, from part of and relationships and sex education programme that is outside the compulsory elements (KS1 'notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults'; KS2 'describe the changes as humans develop from birth to old age' and 'living things produce offspring') of relationships and sex education in the National Curriculum for Science. Parents wishing

to exercise this right are invited to contact the Head Teacher who will explore the concerns and the possibilities of adjusting the programme or approach. She will discuss the possible impact that withdrawal may have on the pupil and she will talk with the parents about the pupil's possible negative experiences or feelings that may result from exclusions and ways which these can be minimised. Once a pupil has been withdrawn they cannot participate in relationships and sex education until the request of withdrawal has been removed.

Confidentiality

Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidentially and that their best interests will be maintained.

Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse

Shebbear Community School has a Child Protection Policy and procedure for dealing with child sexual abuse based on the Local Authority guidelines and recommendations. This policy is available on request.

Teaching and outside agencies

At Shebbear Community School, relationships and sex education lessons will be taught by class teachers and/or health professionals. Outside agencies will be used to support and assist the teachers in the development of the classroom based work. Lessons will only have a teaching input from any one other than the class teacher when there is a clear enhancement that they can bring to the lesson. In this instance these sessions will be planned and run jointly between teaching staff and visitors and the class teacher will be present at all times. The school's procedure for working with external agencies and Teaching and Learning Policy will be followed, including criminal record bureau (DBS) checks.

Answering difficult questions

Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit or difficult question in the classroom. Teachers have been informed that they do not have to answer questions of this nature directly, they can be addressed individually later. The governors support individual teachers in using their discretion and skill in these situations.

Provision for pubertal pupils

A Sanitary Disposal Unit is located in the staff toilet and in one of the cubicles of the girls toilet, for any pubertal pupil. Girls requiring sanitary protection will find it within the cupboard located in the staff toilet.

HIV/AIDS

The school follows the procedure outlined by Devon County Council with regard for supporting pupils or staff infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. See website:

http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/cyps/families/hiv_aids/support_for_children_with_hiv_aids.htm.

Complaints procedure

Any complaints about the Relationships and Sex Education Programme should be made to the Head Teacher who will report to the governors.

DISSEMINATION OF THE POLICY

All staff members and governors will receive a copy of this policy. Several copies are available for loan from the Administrator's office on request. The policy is published on the school's website.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING

Teachers assess the children's work in Relationships and Sex Education both by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons and by doing formal assessments of their work, measured against the specific learning objectives set out in the National Curriculum. We have clear expectations of what the pupils will know, understand and be able to do at the end of each Key Stage.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The headteacher is responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching. She supports colleagues in the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education, by giving them information about current developments in the subject and by providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.

REVIEW OF THE POLICY

The Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be reviewed annually with staff, parents and governors.

Policy approved by the School Improvement Committee at their meeting held 9th March 2016.

Signature of the Head Teacher and Chair of School Improvement Committee

Karen Hutton - Head Teacher

Chris Andrew - Chair of School Improvement Committee