

SOUTHFIELD AND BESSACARR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

September 2015

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Southfield and Bessacarr Primaries are community primary schools for girls and boys aged 3-11. 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 an urban residential area. The school has an active PTA and Parent Council. The activities of these groups include: fund raising, supporting school, buying resources, supplementing visit costs, working with the school to provide support for parents and parent voice.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Sex and relationships 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'

Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parents, from part of the sex and relationships education programme that is outside the compulsory elements of sex and relationships education in the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 SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

Southfield and Bessacarr Primary Schools believe that sex and relationships education will be developmental and a foundation for further development in the secondary school. The schools will work towards these aims in partnership with the parents. The aim of the sex and relationships education policy is to clarify the content and manner in which sex and relationships education will be delivered in this school.

Other school policies which have relevance to sex and relationships education are:

- Equal Opportunities
- Behaviour/ Anti-bullying
- Child Protection
- Special Educational Needs and Inclusion
- Children looked After
- Teaching and Learning
- Drugs Education and Incident Management
- PSHE and Citizenship
- Confidentiality
- Race Equality
- Partnership
- Science
- RE

MORAL AND VALUES FRAMEWORK

The sex and relationships education programme will reflect the school's overarching 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 sex and relationships 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 exploration and clarification of values and attitudes
- foster self esteem, positive self-image and confidence

Topics and themes will be revisited from year to year taking account of the pupils' development and the spiral curriculum concept.

The content of the sex and relationships education programme including learning outcomes will be based on the recommended LA sex and relationships education procedures and the National Curriculum.

Topics will include:

- Happiness
- Growing things
- Big wide world
- Dens and dandelions
- Wriggle and crawl
- Bones, blood and gory bits
- Wild wood
- Sensoria
- Skin deep

ORGANISATION

Sex and relationships education will be co-ordinated by the PSHE co-ordinator in close co-operation with the Heads of Schools, SENCo, Inclusion Leader and Parent Support Advisor.

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 SEAL activities

- 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.

Individual parents can view resources by contacting the school. Southfield and Bessacarr Primary schools are 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

Southfield and Bessacarr Primary Schools are committed to working with parents. Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parents, from part of the sex and relationships education programme that is outside the compulsory elements of sex and relationships education in the National Science Curriculum. Parents will be informed by letter and consent gained for any additional content. If a parent wishes to withdraw their child, the child cannot participate in sex and relationships education until the request of withdrawal has been removed.

Confidentiality

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

Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse

Southfield and Bessacarr Primary Schools have a Child Protection policy and procedure for dealing with child sexual abuse based on the LA guidelines and recommendations. This policy is available on request.

Teaching and Outside Agencies

At Southfield and Bessacarr, SRE lessons will be taught by class teachers. Outside agencies will be used to support and assist the teachers in the development of the classroom based work. On rare occasions outside agencies may be involved in classroom based work as part of the developmental programme following discussions and negotiation. They will be required to work within the school's moral framework outlined earlier. Lessons will only have a teaching input from any one other than the class teacher when there a clear enhancement that they can bring. In this instance these sessions will be jointly planned and run jointly between teaching staff and visitors and the class teacher will be present at all times. The schools procedures for working with external agencies and teaching and learning policy will be followed, including criminal record bureau 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 and can refer to the deputy head if they are concerned.

Provision for pubertal pupils

Sanitary Disposal Units are located in the cubicles of the Year 5/6 girls' toilets.

Complaints Procedures

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

DISSEMINATION OF THE POLICY

All staff members and governors will be informed of this policy and able to view it on request. The policy is accessible to parents and visitors in the reception area of the school.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

A nominated governor will have a link role between the school and the governing body. The PSHE coordinator is responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching.

The co-ordinator supports colleagues in the teaching of Sex and Relationships 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. The PSHE co-ordinator is also responsible for giving the headteacher and Governors an annual summary report, evaluating strengths and areas for development in the subject.

Team leaders will if required arrange visits to the school from any relevant representative from a partner organisation who is involved in supporting the PSHE provision, the PSHE co-ordinator will be able offer advice and guidance with regard to this if needed.