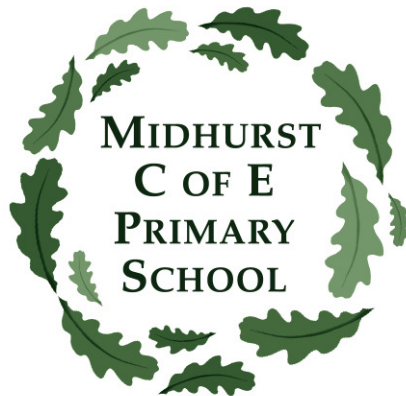


MIDHURST C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Relationships and Sex Education Policy

SAFEGUARDING AT MIDHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL

MPS is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Our intention is that children will be safe, secure and happy, and enjoy their time as pupils at this school.

During the writing of this policy due consideration has been given to all relevant aspects of Safeguarding and of children's welfare.

Midhurst C of E Primary School

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Our School Relationships and Sex Education incorporates the teaching of good health and sex education.

Our policy fulfills statutory requirements and is set within the overall teaching and learning ethos of our School.

Aims

It is our aim to provide children with the confidence and knowledge to live in the modern world with informed and moral values.

We believe that relationship and sex education in our School will be developmental and a foundation for further work in the secondary school.

Relationship and sex education will contribute to the requirement of the Education Reform Act 1998 that the school curriculum should be one which:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and
- prepares pupils for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Our Relationship and Sex Education teaching aims to help children understand such concepts as growing and changing, the life cycle, puberty and reproduction.

Through this our children will be helped to understand their bodies, how they are growing and changing and how they will change in the future.

It is also about emotions, relationships, responsibilities and how we care for each other. We hope to enhance the social and emotional development of the children, helping them to understand the benefits of caring relationships and to be aware of pressures and possible dangers.

Objectives

The Relationship and Sex Education programme will reflect the School ethos, modelling and encouraging the following values:

- respect for self
- respect for others
- responsibility for one's own actions
- responsibilities to our own families, friends, school and the wider community.

We want to:

- complement and support the role of parents and carers
- keep parents and carers well informed of policy and policy changes
- make relationship and sex education part of a wider PSHE and health promoting Schools curriculum.

Organisation

The Relationship and Sex Education scheme of work will provide information which is easy to understand, relevant and appropriate to the age and maturity of pupils.

It will include the development of communication and social skills.

It will encourage the exploration and clarification of values and attitudes.

Teachers will deal factually, honestly and clearly with the children's questions about physical differences between the sexes and about human reproduction, as these questions arise.

The term Sex Education will only be used when the children in Year 5 and 6 are receiving particular instruction. The School Nurse and perhaps other individuals will contribute to the planned sessions if required. DVDs as advised by the health authority and PSHE team will provide a stimulus for teaching and discussion.

Parents and carers may be invited to watch the videos, ask questions and decide whether to include their child in the study, as is their right.

Parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from Relationship and Sex Education lessons other than that which is compulsory under the National Curriculum orders for Science.

Teachers, Governors and the School Nurse will respect the wishes of all parents and carers and will deal sensitively to suggestions or comments made by parents and carers.

Equal Opportunities

In implementing our programme the School recognises that all pupils, irrespective of gender, race or ability are entitled to take part in the activities planned, unless parents and carers have chosen to withdraw their child from an aspect of the Relationship and Sex Education programme.

All pupils have a right to have their questions answered honestly in the context of their own level of understanding.

Teaching

The content of our teaching programme encompasses the following considerations:

- physical development
- emotional development
- social development
- self esteem
- family relationships
- relationships with friends
- human reproduction and genetic inheritance
- child development
- gender roles and stereotyping
- practical skills - decision making, listening etc

We believe that these areas are appropriate to the needs of our children. Some aspects will be dealt with implicitly.

Care will be taken in planning appropriate schemes of work so that there is a balance between:

- knowledge and understanding and
- feelings, attitudes and values.

Ground rules

It is important for teachers to create an atmosphere in which pupils:

- feel comfortable and confident
- feel able to contribute
- can use language as a tool for exploration
- feel supported
- can express their feelings

In order to achieve this, ground rules will be established for staff and pupils, these will include:

- no one has to answer a personal question
- no one is forced to take part in discussion
- only the correct names for body parts will be used
- meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way

We aim to ensure that Relationship and Sex Education is information based but will also include the exploring of feelings, attitudes and values whilst developing communication skills.

Aspects of our relationships and sex programme will be taught through the Science curriculum.

At Key Stage 1 pupils will be taught:

- that animals, including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
- to name the main external parts of the human body
- that humans can produce babies and these babies grow into children and then adults
- to recognise physical similarities and differences between themselves and other pupils
- to know that humans develop at different rates and that human babies have special needs

At Key Stage 2 pupils will be taught:

- that there are life processes, including nutrition, movement, growth and reproduction common to animals, including humans
- the main stages of human life cycle
- in Year 5/6, about some of the physical, emotional and social changes which take place at puberty and about how changes at puberty affect the body in relation to hygiene
- in Year 5/6, about the basic biology of human reproduction

Aspects of our relationships and sex education programme will be taught through our Personal, Social and Health Education programme (PSHE).

At Key Stage 1 pupils will consider the following:

- personal safety e.g. with visiting speakers such as a police officer, a nurse and drama groups
- a respect for their own space and that of others
- ways in which people learn to live and work together - listening, discussing, sharing
- the importance of valuing oneself and others
- the range of human emotions and ways to deal with these

At Key Stage 2 pupils will consider:

- some of the skills necessary for parenting
- different patterns of friendship - to be able to talk about friends and friendships with family and teachers
- the meaning of friendship and loyalty and begin to develop skills needed to form relationships

Resources

A range of resources are drawn upon as appropriate to the objectives of the lesson and the age and maturity of the pupils e.g. SEAL Guidance, Living and Growing Videos - Channel 4.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The policy will be formally reviewed every year, unless further legislation or guidelines initiate immediate response.

Evaluation will take place with the School Leadership Team and Governors as follows:

- Teachers and Teaching Assistants evaluating schemes of work
- Teachers and Teaching Assistants evaluating work with pupils
- Comments from parents and carers, particularly those of Year 5/6 pupils will be noted