

Greenleys Junior School



LEARNING *for* LIFE

Sex Education Policy

Approved: 12 June 2018

To be reviewed: June 2021

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What is Sex Education?

Sex education explains how the human body functions, how it changes during puberty and how humans reproduce. It explores responsibility towards oneself and others.

Sex education is part of PSHE. It has social, moral and ethical dimensions.

Sex education is a developmental process helping young people examine their own and others attitudes and values and helping them to make informed decisions.

Aims

To help children form an understanding of personal relationships.

To develop children's self-esteem and to encourage them to treat others with sensitivity and respect.

To help children manage the physical and emotional changes of adolescence with confidence.

To provide equal opportunities for all children to gain knowledge and understanding of the issues involved in this curriculum area, giving consideration to gender, culture and ability.

Objectives

To inform children about the human reproductive system and processes.

To help children to value themselves and others and to appreciate everyone's right to form positive relationships.

To inform children about the physical changes that takes place during adolescence and the variant time-scale for these changes.

To discuss the emotional aspects of growing up and the responsibilities that this entails.

To give children the opportunities and skills to analyse their feelings.

Morals and Values framework

Children will be encouraged to develop a sense of self worth and self respect. They will be encouraged to respect others feelings and needs. Our aim is that through discussion of issues and a firm knowledge base, children will be able to make responsible and informed decisions and will acquire understanding and attitudes that will prepare them to view their relationships in a healthy and responsible manner.

Facts will be presented in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner, set within a clear framework of values and an awareness of the law on sexual behaviour. The value of family life and responsibilities of parenthood will be stressed.

Equal Opportunities

The school will ensure that all children have the opportunity to fully take part in the provided programme of study for sex education, giving consideration to gender, religion and ability.

Organisation

The programme of study will be taught by a familiar teacher to the whole class or small groups. It may be appropriate for some aspects to be covered in a single sex group with, if possible, a teacher of the same sex. Health professionals, such as the school nurse, may be involved in the teaching of sex education. It is important that this is in line with the schools' sex education policy and complements the work being done by the teacher.

Dealing with Sensitive Issues

Teachers should try to foster an atmosphere of trust and confidentiality. Children will be encouraged to take part in discussions and ask questions which will be dealt with in an open and frank manner. However discussion will only take place on those matters clearly outlined in the scheme of work. In the event that a child raises an issue that leads the teacher to think the child may be in danger, the schools' child protection procedure will come into operation.

The parameters of acceptable behaviour will be clearly stated to the children. Any child who repeatedly indicates that he / she is too immature to handle the issues being covered will be excluded from the classroom for that lesson and their future involvement in the programme of work discussed with parents.

Contraceptive Advice

It is inappropriate for teachers to give contraceptive advice to an individual child under the age of 16.

Confidentiality

This is essential and will be observed except where a child's disclosure leads a teacher to think that the child may be in moral or physical danger or in breach of the law.

Parents

The school recognizes that parents are the key figures in helping their children to cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up and in preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities that sexual maturity brings.

Parents will be informed about the content and organization of Sex Education to be taught in the school. This will include the school's policy regarding answering difficult questions and dealing with sensitive issues. Parents will be offered an opportunity to look at resources. General information is included in the school's prospectus.

Parents will be required to inform the school if they wish to withdraw their child from all or part of the school's sex education programme, other than those elements required by the National Curriculum Science orders. Alternative arrangements will then be made for that child.

Dissemination of the Policy

A copy of the Sex Education policy will be kept in the Policy Folder in the Staffroom and in each of the Staff Handbooks. The policy is also available to view on the website and the School Office is happy to supply parents with a paper copy if they would like one.