

AURIOL JUNIOR SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

"Given the increasing concerns around child sexual abuse and exploitation and the growing risks associated with growing up in a digital world, there is a particularly compelling case to act in relation to pupil safety. That is why the amendment places a duty now on the Secretary of State to make Relationships Education and RSE statutory through regulations. This approach will allow us time to properly and thoroughly engage with a wide range of interests and expertise.." Sex and Relationship Education Guidance DfE 2017.

Aims

Relationships and RSE will be age-appropriate, building knowledge and life skills over time in a way that prepares pupils for issues they will soon face. They will likely focus on:

- different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships, dealing with strangers and, at secondary school, intimate relationships;
- how to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships, including self-respect and respect for others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent, and how to manage conflict, and also how to recognise unhealthy relationships;
- how relationships may affect health and wellbeing, including mental health;
- healthy relationships and safety online; and
- factual knowledge, at secondary school, around sex, sexual health and sexuality, set firmly within the context of relationships.

Teachers will:

- Provide support, knowledge and information to which all children are entitled;
 - Provide lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development so that children are equipped to make well-informed decisions;
- Clarify/reinforce knowledge children have already;
- Raise children's self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others;
- Help children to understand their sexual feelings and behaviour;
- Encourage respect and consideration for others;
- Help them to understand the importance of respect, tolerance and acceptance towards others who may have different background, cultures, feelings and sexuality.
 - Help children to understand the unacceptability of and the emotional harm caused by bullying in whatever form, be it racial, as a result a pupil's appearance, in relation to gender, sexual orientation or for any other reasons.

Teaching and Learning

The school's Teaching and Learning Policy provides the overall guidance to the way in which the curriculum is planned, delivered and evaluated. However, the points listed below are seen as key elements in the Relationship and Sex Education Policy:

- Respect for self and others;
- Tolerance of difference and an absence of prejudice;
- Development of communication and social skills with peers, school and family;
- Exploration and clarification of values and attitudes and how to keep safe;
- Draw upon previous knowledge to develop more understanding;
- Reflect on their new learning.

Equal Opportunities

Relationship and Sex Education is taught by the Class Teacher who provides a range of activities and situations that develop all pupils' knowledge and understanding. All children's needs are catered for in line with the school's Equal Opportunities Policy.

Auriol Junior School is committed to working towards equality of opportunity in all aspects of school life. All resources and methods have been checked against equal opportunities criteria.

Organisational Strategies

The Sex and Relationship programme is delivered through:

- Planned aspects within the Science, PSHE and RE Curricula;
- Pastoral time;
- Occasional visits from the school nurse, dentist, parents and younger and older siblings;
- Addressing moral and ethical issues which may arise from apparently unrelated topics in all National Curriculum subjects. Within this category, as long as any discussion takes place within the context of the subject, it will not be deemed to be part of the Sex Education programme and therefore not subject to parental right of withdrawal.

A variety of approaches are used to give pupils relevant information to enable moral and health issues to be explored through discussion and to acquire skills. Pupils may be taught in mixed ability and gender groups. Single gender groups will be used as deemed appropriate.

Cross-curricular Skills and Links

Sex and Relationship Education forms part of the curriculum in every year group – (see Science, PSHE and Relationship and Sex Education schemes of work.)

Progression and Continuity

This is achieved by whole school curriculum planning which is outlined in the school's long-term plans and the medium term plans devised by the Science leader in consultation with each year group and with the PSHE leader. The Relationship and Sex programme is incorporated predominantly into aspects of the Science and PSHE schemes of work, with a Relationship and Sex scheme of work highlighting the specific areas to be taught in each year group which ensures that there is suitable progression in the necessary skills, concepts, knowledge and understanding of the subject throughout Key Stage 2. Teachers will teach within the learning expectation for their year group and answer questions appropriately with consideration to the needs of the individual. Teachers will evaluate their own lessons and the Science and PSHE leaders are available for consultation and will assist any year group, or individual as required.

Resources

The resources are mainly located in year group areas. Topic boxes, relating to the teaching of the scientific aspects of Relationship and Sex Education, are stored in year group areas and the contents are clearly labelled. These include DVDs, reference books, games and information leaflets published by companies such as "Always."

There is provision for parents to inspect the resources used during the teaching programme. The subject leaders conduct an audit of resources annually.

Information and Communication Technology

Some software is available to support the scientific aspects of the programme. Care should be taken if accessing the Internet for information as material may not be deemed suitable.

Health and Safety

It is essential to ensure that all appropriate safety measures are employed in line with the school's Health and Safety Policy. Particular reference should be made to:

- Hygiene;
- Confidentiality;
- Care of self;
- Assertiveness.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Assessment and reporting of the Relationship and Sex programme is in conjunction with the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum.

Specific Issues

This policy is used in conjunction with the "Sex and Relationship Education Guidance." DfEE 2000, which covers confidentiality and the content of the Sex and Relationship Education. The guidelines allows parents the right to withdraw their child from the Relationship and Sex Education if they wish.

Review

This policy was formulated in consultation with staff, parents and governors. There will be an annual review of the Relationship and Sex Education programme whereby priorities will be established and noted on the Science action plan. This policy will be reviewed every year.