



CUMNOR C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

**Agreed by Governors:
April 2016**

V. CARR (Chair of Govs)

E. READ (Headteacher)

To be reviewed April 2019

The Education Reform Act (Section 1) states that schools should provide a curriculum that *'promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils...and of society; and prepare such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.*

Sex and Relationships Education is an important dimension of a child's statutory entitlement.

Rationale

Sex and Relationships education is an umbrella term for all the teaching and learning we offer pupils to understand their own and others sexuality, to develop skills for relationships and for informed decision making. At Cumnor School we believe that sex and relationships education is the entitlement of each child and we are committed to deliver it within the context of a broad and balanced programme of health education.

Aims

In our school we aim, through implicit and explicit learning experiences to:

- Ensure that sex and relationships education is integrated into the curriculum and not isolated, taken out of context or over emphasised in any way
- Foster self esteem and respect for others as the cornerstone of good health education and of therefore, good sex education
- Nurture a partnership between caring adults – governors, teachers, ancillary staff and parents – to ensure sensitive support for children and young people as they grow and mature
- Ensure children have the ability to accept their own and others' sexuality
- Encourage children to enjoy relationships based on mutual trust and respect, free from any abuse.
- Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussions on sexual matters can take place without embarrassment.
- Adopt a whole school approach to sex and relationships education.

Teaching and Learning

Effective teaching of sex and relationships education will increase pupils' knowledge:

- Body knowledge
- Human growth and development
- Families, parenting and life cycles
- Safety and child protection
- Helping agencies
- Sexual identity

It will also help pupils to:

- Improve their self esteem
- Make informed choices and decisions

- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others
- Maintain and develop relationships
- Develop self confidence
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations
- Develop the motivation to succeed

In the scheme of work used, a variety of resources (with ideas for suggested use) are identified, including video material, worksheets, visits from the school health nurses and books. However, we emphasise the importance of discussion and questioning within the safe, secure and non-judgemental atmosphere of the class with its teacher. The atmosphere of trust, mutual acceptance and confidentiality is built in the PSHCE programme.

Resources available:

- Smile Again
- Visits from the school nurse,
- Leaflets – 4You (FPA), Growing Up / What's it all About?
- Real Health for Real Lives.

Within the taught and hidden curriculum, (i.e. the whole school environment), pupils should be given frequent and regular opportunities to work on feelings and to practise personal and inter-personal skills. We value and respect the learning that occurs in the community and in the home, believing that these, alongside school links, are essential dimensions of sex education. It is important to involve, wherever possible, parents about the sex and relationships education programme within the curriculum.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from receiving sex and relationships education at school but not to withdraw them from the teaching of the science national curriculum.

Parents are offered the opportunity to attend a meeting prior to the work in class and kept informed of when lessons will take place.

Further Information

For information on child protection and confidentiality see OCC guidance.

Our Health Nurse continues to offer guidance and support on any health issues including sex education.