



Cornerstone Church of England (VA) Primary School

*Building our Community with Love,
Forgiveness and Hope*



SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Reviewed By	Teaching and Learning	Authorised by	Teaching and Learning
Last Review	Spring 2017	Date	24.1.2017
Next Review	January 2019	Review Cycle	Bi-annually

Policy Statement

At Cornerstone Primary we believe that Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) provides the basis for developing young children's attitudes, values and sensitivities to others. Through a planned and structured approach, children will develop a positive sense of self as well as a respect and responsibility for themselves and others.

We have based our school's sex and relationship policy on the DfES guidance document 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' (ref DfES 0116/2000) and Hampshire's 'Guidelines for Sex Education'. We will also use the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) **framework** and the requirements as outlined in the National Curriculum Science Programmes of Study.

Aims

We aim to help children to:

- understand how humans develop;
- develop an appreciation of the ways that people learn to live and work together;
- foster self-esteem and take responsibility for their own personal safety, and
- Develop an awareness of their own gender and an understanding of gender differences.

Guidelines

- We teach sex and relationship education through different aspects of the curriculum. Whilst we carry out the main sex education teaching in our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, we also teach some sex education through other subjects (eg science, RE, PE) where we feel that they contribute significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body and how it is changing and developing.

In **Year 2**, we teach the children about:

- Life cycles (plants etc.)
- Gender differences.
- How babies are born (animals)
- Growing and changing (non-puberty)

In **Year 4**, we teach the children about:

- Changes, physical, puberty
- Making my own decisions.
- Emotional maturity,
- Young and old

In **Year 5** we teach the children about:

- Puberty in girls (managing menstruation etc.)
- Puberty in boys (hormonal changes etc.)

In **Year 6**, we teach the children about:

- How babies are made (humans)
- How babies are born (humans)

- In science lessons, we teach our children about how animals, including humans, move, feed, grow and reproduce. Children learn to appreciate the difference between people and how to show respect for each other.
- Teaching and learning strategies include whole class, group and individual organisation as appropriate. We use stories, drama, dance and music, as well as Circle Time to discuss issues related to sex and relationship education.
- We use other agencies to help us deliver an appropriate Sex Education curriculum (e.g. School Health Service).
- All children regardless of gender, age, race and ability have equal access to our sex and relationship education programme.
- Children's questions are answered sensitively, due consideration being given to any particular religious or cultural factors and to parents' wishes. Should a question arise that staff feel would be more appropriately answered by parents, we will contact parents

The Role of Parents

Our school is very aware that the primary role in children's Sex Education lies with their parents. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of our children through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this, we:

- Inform parents about the school's Sex and Relationship Education policy and practice.
- answer any questions that parents may have about the Sex and Relationship Education of their child,
- Share materials we will be using with children.
- take seriously any issues that parents raise with teachers or governors about our policy or our arrangements for sex education within the school;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy and making modifications to it as necessary;

We believe that through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information children will benefit from being given consistent messages about their changing body and their increasing responsibilities.

Parents' Rights

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of our Sex Education Programme other than that in the Science National Curriculum. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education lessons, they are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in.

The Role of the Headteacher

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our Sex and Relationship Education policy, and to oversee its effective implementation. It is also the Headteacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient training so that they can teach it effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

The Headteacher liaises with outside agencies regarding the sex education programme and ensures that all adults who work with the children on these issues are aware of the school policy and that they work within this framework.

The Headteacher monitors the implementation of this policy and reports to governors, when requested, on its effectiveness.

Staff Development

Staff development is addressed through:

- in-house training
- sharing of good practice
- PSHE / PATHS support groups
- Individual / group attendance at courses as appropriate.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually by the Teaching and Learning Committee of our Governing Body. Governors give serious consideration to any comments from parents about our sex education programme and a record is kept of all such comments.