



# **SRE (Sex & Relationship Education Policy**

Date: October 2018  
Review October 2019

**‘The child grew and became strong in body, mind and spirit.’**

**Policy**  
**Mission**  
**Statement**

***‘GROWTH...the journey is never ending...’***

At St. Peter’s our vision starts with growth.

‘The child grew and became strong in body, mind and spirit.’

**(Luke 2. v40)**

Growth of body; we aim to develop healthy, active, unique children who are confident in the body God has given them. Our uniqueness and individuality bring us together as one community with a common understanding.

Growth of mind; we aim to foster, nurture and develop the knowledge, curiosity and understanding of all.

Growth of spirit; we aim to nurture all members of our school spiritually by developing a core Christian, moral purpose rooted in scripture.

As a Church of England school, our Christian vision and values are central to all we do. Our mission statement, ‘The child grew and became strong in body, mind and spirit’ is at the forefront of all our teaching and allows us to celebrate our lives in all its fullness. Our values of hope, love, faith and trust underpin our approach to teaching SRE, and are themes that permeate each lesson, as the foundations for successful relationships.

### **What is Sex and Relationship Education?**

At St. Peter’s Church of England Primary School, the definition of Sex and Relationship Education is understood as

“Lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development and the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care.”

### **Aims and Objectives of the policy**

The aims of the sex and relationship education programme will be delivered at St Peter’s CE Primary School in the context of the school’s Christian ethos and values. The Governors seek to provide a well-balanced programme of sex education that reflects the age and maturity of both girls and boys. Sex is not only a given fact of human existence but, in Christian belief, a gift of God as part of creation. It is important that as children grow up, they understand their own bodies, instincts and feelings. As the pupils mature and become more sexually aware, our school aims to teach sex education within a Christian context of love, faithfulness and forgiveness.

Sex and Relationship education in this school will contribute to the new National Curriculum as from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. This requires all maintained schools to develop a programme that “will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.”

Our aim is to provide a balanced and broadly based curriculum that:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society.
- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- Where pupils develop an understanding of what is and what is not acceptable in a relationship.

The school will work towards these aims in partnership with parents. This policy will ensure that each child receives accurate non-biased information, which will enable them to make decisions about their own sexual health and to be sensitive and understanding of the decisions that other people make. This programme will

be developmental according to the age and ability of the children, and will provide a foundation for future work within secondary school.

### **Morals and Values Framework**

The Sex and Relationship Education programme will reflect the school Christian ethos and demonstrate and encourage the following values. Part of maturity is learning to deal with failure in ourselves and others and realising that in strong relationships mistakes or wrong choices can be followed by repentance.

- Respect for self.
- Respect for others.
- Responsibility for their own actions.
- Responsibility for their family, friends, school and the wider community.

### **Equal Opportunities**

This Sex and Relationship Education programme is an entitlement for all pupils. Nobody will be excluded by the school because of race, gender, religion or sexual orientation.

### **Organisation of the School Sex and Relationship Education**

Sex and Relationship education will be taught by the class teacher. Only appropriate materials will be used and responses to questions will receive careful thought. It will be taught:

- Through planned aspects of the science curriculum.
- Through story and circle time.
- Through planned visits by parents, babies etc.
- Through planned work with the school nurse.
- The relationship aspect of the programme may also be occasionally delivered through collective worship.

### **Teaching Methods**

Teaching & learning will be sensitive to individual needs and will focus on, and support the children's self-esteem. The work will always start with the children's understanding and the work will be planned appropriately.

Ground rules will be established at the start of each unit of work. These will be:

- **No-one (teacher or pupil) will have to answer a personal question.**
- **No-one will be forced to take part in any discussion.**
- **Only the correct name for body parts will be used.**
- **Meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way.**

Single gender groups will be used as deemed appropriate and relevant. However, when children are working in single gender groups they will receive the same teacher input.

### **Resources**

The range of books and videos used will be available to view at parent workshops or by specific request to the School Nurse or Deputy Headteacher. Supplementary books, fiction and non-fiction will be available to the children in classrooms. The school nurse, on occasions, provides advice for teachers in their planning.

### **Evaluations**

The Sex and Relationship Education programme will be evaluated through pupil evaluations and self assessments. These will be carried at the end of each unit. These will then inform future planning.

### **Specific Issues Statements:**

**Child Protection:** The school has a child protection policy, which is available on request. Should a teacher be directly approached by a child who is sexually active, then this will be dealt with as a child protection issue and will be reported to the designated safeguarding teacher (Mrs. Michelle Colley).

### **Confidentiality:**

Although parents and children are encouraged to talk to each other, a teacher may keep information and discussions confidential if requested to do so by a pupil. They may then seek guidance from the designated teachers without breaking confidence. Teachers **must** break confidences if it is in the child's best interest to do so. Pupils will be made aware that staff cannot offer unconditional confidentiality, however pupils will be reassured that if confidentiality has to be broken, then they will be told and supported appropriately. In seeking to support the welfare of pupils the usual course for the school is to involve parents. Occasionally this may be against the wishes of the child and/or may place the child at greater risk. On these occasions the school may, in the best interest of the child, act without informing the parents.

### **Answering children's questions:**

Children's questions will be dealt with, as in other lessons, in an honest and sensitive manner appropriate to the level of the pupils understanding and religious and cultural background.

### **Using Visitors:**

In accordance with the school policy, visitors will be invited to school in order to supplement or complement the programme of work. For example, a mother who is pregnant or who has just had a baby may be invited in, or a midwife.

Any materials used by visitors, including health professionals, will be viewed by the class teacher beforehand. The class teacher will remain with the class during the visitor's contribution to the lesson. A senior member of staff will have been informed.

### **Withdrawing pupils:**

Under the Education Act 1992, pupils can be withdrawn by their parents from any part of the Sex and Relationships programme which is not within the National Curriculum. Parents wishing to exercise this right should discuss their concerns and arrangements for the child with the head or class teacher.

### **Working with Parents:**

The school is widely committed to working in partnership with parents and will endeavour to consult parents as widely as possible on the development and review of the Sex and Relationship Education policy.

### **Concerns**

Any complaints should be taken to the class teacher, if the teacher cannot resolve the situation then the head teacher should be informed.

### **Procedures for policy monitoring and evaluation**

This policy will be monitored every three years.

### **THE LAW**

Education Act 1996 Part V, Chapter 4, sections 403-404

Education Act 1993 Section 241 (Parents' Right to withdraw)

Education Act 1996 Part V, Chapter 4, Section 405

### **RESOURCES**

BBC Interactive CD

BBC Growing Up DVD

Power Point for Parents