

Stanton St Quintin Primary School, Stanton St Quintin, Wiltshire. SN14 6DQ			
Name of Policy	Relationships and Sex Education Policy (RSE)		
Last Reviewed	July 2016	Reviewed by	Ben Lawrence
Approved by	FGB	Owned by	FGB
Next review	April 2019		

Principles

Whilst RSE is not part of the National Curriculum 2014, Stanton St Quintin believes that it is important to address issues such as RSE that is outside other curriculum areas. In this document, sex and relationships education (SRE) is defined as 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health'. SRE is part of the personal, social and health education curriculum in the school and is used to inform children about sexual issues. This is carried out with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions. SRE is not used as a means of promoting any form of sexual orientation.

At Stanton St Quintin Primary School, we have decided to adopt the title of 'Relationships and Sex Education' (RSE) to show that the emphasis will be on healthy relationships.

Aims and objectives

Children are taught about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- healthy, positive relationships
- the way humans reproduce;
- respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term, and loving relationship;
- the importance of family life;
- moral questions;
- relationship issues;
- respect for the views of other people;
- sex abuse and what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters.

Context

RSE is taught in the context of the school's aims and values framework, incorporating modern day British values. In our school this means that children are given information about sexual behaviour, with an awareness of the moral code and values which underpin all the work in school.

In particular, RSE is taught in the belief that:

- RSE should be taught in the context of marriage and family life;
- RSE is part of a wider social, personal, spiritual and moral education process;
- children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies;
- children should learn about their responsibilities to others, and be aware of the consequences of sexual activity;
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect;
- children need to learn the importance of self-control.

Organisation

RSE is taught through different aspects of the curriculum. The main RSE teaching is through the personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum. Some RSE is taught through other subject

areas (for example, science and PE), where it contributes significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body, and how it is changing and developing.

In PSHE, we use the Dimensions 3D PSHE scheme of work in association with the Wiltshire Learn for Life Scheme. All children are taught about relationships, and we encourage children to discuss issues. In years 4 and 5 we use the BBC 'Living and Growing' videos to support what is being taught in class. Our RSE units will occur on an annual basis and parents and carers have the chance to view the materials in advance and may, if wished, withdraw their child from these lessons. This should be discussed with the Head Teacher, and the request made in writing.

In science lessons in both key stages, teachers inform children about growing up. For this aspect of the school's teaching, the guidance material in the national scheme of work for science is followed. In Key Stage 1 children are taught that animals, including humans, move, feed, grow and reproduce, and also about the main parts of the body. Children learn to appreciate the differences between people and how to show respect for each other. In Key Stage 2 life processes and the main stages of the human life cycle are taught in greater depth.

The role of parents

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's sex and relationships education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective we:

- inform parents about the school's RSE policy and practice;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the RSE of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements RSE in the school;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy and making modifications to it as necessary;
- inform parents about the best practice known with regard to RSE, so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home. 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.

The role of other members of the community

We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to health education. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority, such as the school nurse and other health professionals, give us valuable support with our RSE programme. Other people that we call on include local clergy, social workers and youth workers.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct RSE lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved, or likely to be involved in sexual activity, then the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection. Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse. In these circumstances, the teacher will share their concerns with the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher will then deal with the matter in consultation with health care professionals. (See also Child Protection Policy.)

The role of the Head Teacher

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about the RSE policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Head Teacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

The Head Teacher liaises with external agencies regarding the school RSE programme, and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework.

Monitoring and review

The Performance and Standards sub-committee of the governing body monitors the RSE policy on an annual basis. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The Performance and Standards sub-committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the RSE programme, and makes a record of all such comments. Governors require the Head Teacher to keep a written record, giving details of the content and delivery of the sex education programme that is taught in the school.

This should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

Racial Equality Policy

Child Protection Policy

Anti Bullying policy

Equal Opportunities

Copies of these policies are located in the policy file in the Head Teacher's Office

E-safety Policy