

Nursling C of E Primary School



Policy for Sex and Relationships Education

The teaching of Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) at Nursling Primary School, using an integrated and consistent approach, is an important aspect of pupils' education. SRE includes supporting young people in developing self-confidence in preparing for physical and emotional changes into adulthood. We believe that teaching SRE should be shared with parents and be mutually supportive and complimentary. It promotes an understanding of the range of family types and other people who contribute to providing children with the care, love and support they need to grow and develop.

In this document, SRE relates to 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development'. It is about the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care and promoting the British value of tolerance.

SRE is taught as part of the National Curriculum for Science and as part of the school's scheme of work for PSHE and Citizenship. We also acknowledge that children will learn about moral values through all aspects of school life and in all curriculum areas.

Aims

Taking account of the age, maturity and needs of the pupils we aim to:

- provide the knowledge to which all pupils are entitled;
- help children develop feelings of self-respect, self-esteem, self-confidence, sympathy and empathy;
- provide the confidence to be participating members of society, to value themselves and others and to take responsibility for their own actions;
- prepare pupils for puberty;
- give them an understanding of reproduction and sexual development;
- give them an understanding of health and hygiene;
- answer pupils' questions honestly and sensitively – referring the children to parents where appropriate;
- give pupils the language to be able to ask difficult questions and talk about things that worry or concern them
- give them information on where individuals and families may get help and support;
- develop and use communication and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media;
- ensure they understand the ways in which they need to protect themselves, including when using social media; and that they have the skills to ask for help should they need it.

Teaching and learning including delivery of the curriculum

We teach SRE in the context of the school's aims and values framework. Whilst SRE in our school means that we give children information about sexual behaviour, we do this with an awareness of the moral code and values which underpin all work in school. In particular, we teach SRE with the beliefs that:

- SRE should be taught in the context of loving relationships and family life;
- SRE is part of a wider personal, social, spiritual and moral educational process;
- Children should be taught to have respect for their own and others' 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.

We teach SRE discreetly. However, some relationship aspects are covered through our values curriculum; linked with R.E, children reflect on family relationships, different family groups and friendship. They learn about rituals and traditions associated with birth, marriage and death and talk about the emotions involved.

We also teach SRE through other subject areas, such as science and PE, where we feel that they contribute significantly to a child’s knowledge and understanding of their own body, and how it is changing and developing, as well as those aspects linked to health and hygiene. An overview of where this appears in the curriculum is in the table below.

Year R	All about me (Autumn 1) to include keeping myself clean and families	Growth and new life (Spring 2)
Year 1	It’s a bug Life – knowledge of life cycles (Summer 1)	
Year 2	Knowledge of germs and how they spread as part of the Florence Nightingale topic (Autumn Term)	Know that humans have babies as part of ‘Animals’ topic (Spring Term)
Years 3 + 4	Animals study includes humans (Autumn Term)	
Years 5 + 6	Changes in growing up, puberty, reproduction, menstruation conception and pregnancy. (Summer Term)	

N.B. This content is suggested but will be adapted according to the needs of the pupils.

Since SRE incorporates the development of self-esteem and relationships, pupils’ learning does not just take place through the taught curriculum, but through all aspects of school life including the playground.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct SRE lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence but they cannot guarantee confidentiality. If a child makes reference to being involved, or likely to be involved in sexual activity, or indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse, this will be dealt with in line with our Safeguarding policy.

If a child asks an explicit or difficult question, staff will use their professional judgement in deciding the best way to answer. This may be through individual work or discussion with the child. If the staff member is concerned, they can refer it to the DSL who can discuss the matter with the parent, or follow appropriate procedures. In upper Key Stage 2 classes will use a question box so that they can ask questions anonymously.

The role of parents

The school is aware that the primary role in children’s SRE 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 SRE policy and practice;
- Answer any questions that parents may have about the SRE of their child;
- Allow parents to view materials which will be used to support this area of their child’s education;
- Take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for SRE within the school.

Right of withdrawal

Parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from some, or all, SRE lessons, but not statutory Science lessons. If a parent is considering such a course of action they should, in the first instance, contact the child’s teacher and then, if necessary, the head teacher.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the:
Teaching and Learning Policy
Safeguarding Policy