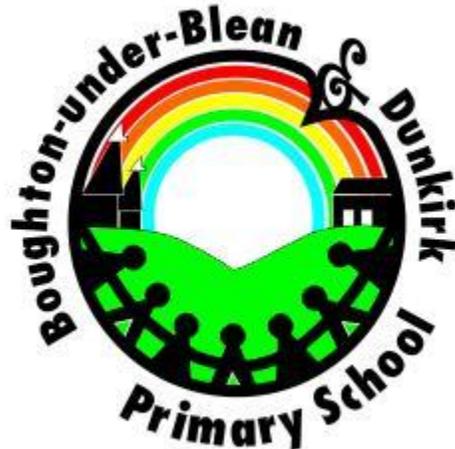


BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN & DUNKIRK METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL



SEX EDUCATION AND RELATIONSHIP POLICY

Approved: March 2019
Review Date: Term 4 2021
Ratified: 13.5.19

Signed.....Chair of Governors

'Dream, Believe, Achieve Together'

We aspire for all our children to become confident, happy and caring individuals who achieve personal success and develop a love of learning and a life built upon our school values.

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk is a Methodist Primary School and our Methodist values are at the heart of everything we do.

- Forgiveness
- Friendship
- Trust
- Justice
- Perseverance

These are then underpinned by our learning values.

- Communication
- Independence
- Aspiration
- Engagement

Our whole school ethos is built upon and guided by them. Every school policy is written with this in mind.

Rationale

The United Kingdom has by far the highest rate of teenage pregnancies in Western Europe, and the evidence suggests that children are becoming sexually active at an earlier age.

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is a key aspect of Personal, Social and Health Education at Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk Methodist Primary School. As such it is more than the biology of reproduction, and is taught within the context of caring relationships. The Sex and Relationships education provided forms a foundation for further work in secondary schools, and the skills and attitudes developed will enable the children to lead healthy lives.

At Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk Methodist Primary school, we have based our SRE Policy on the DfES Guidance document (DfES 0116/2000). In this document, SRE is

defined as: learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about: 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. Whilst we use SRE to inform the children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions.

Aims

The purpose of teaching SRE is to ensure that children learn about issues in a caring and informed way, which dispels myths that they may have acquired.

At Boughton and Dunkirk Primary School we aim:

- To ensure that pupils are prepared for puberty;
- To develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships, and respect the differences between people;
- For pupils to be able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work;
- For children to know how they can protect themselves and where to ask for help and support;
- To empower children to make informed choices about their education and future adult life;
- Respect for their bodies and the importance of sexual activity being within a committed, long term and loving relationship;
- The importance of family life;
- Moral questions;
- Relationship issues;
- Sexual abuse/exploitation and where they can seek advice if they are worried about any sexual matters.

The school will work towards these aims in partnership with parents.

Delivering Sex and Relationships Education

The majority of SRE is taught to children in Year 4, 5 and 6; although other PSHE issues are covered in the previous years to fully equip children with the skills and attitudes necessary for them to benefit effectively from sex education. We also teach some SRE through other subjects (e.g. Science and PE) where we feel that they contribute significantly to a pupil's knowledge and understanding of their own body and how it is changing and developing.

Most of the teaching of SRE will be done by the class teacher, as s/he will have established a working relationship with the class. Our Family Liaison Officer is often involved with the teaching of this.

A range of teaching methods which involve children's full participation are used to teach sex and relationship education. These include use of video, discussion, looking at case studies, drama and role-play.

Sex and relationship education is usually delivered in mixed gender groups. However, there may be occasions where single gender groups are more appropriate and relevant.

Cross Curricular Links

All curriculum areas make a contribution to SRE. Some subjects make a clear contribution, such as Science and PSHE, while other subjects make a less obvious, but important, contribution, such as:

- Literacy – discussion of specific relationships and moral dilemmas;
- RE – discussion of family and marriage;
- History and Geography – discussion of wider social issues;
- Art and Music – discussion of feelings and emotions within relationships;

What is taught in SRE lessons?

Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1

Children learn about the concept of male and female and about young animals. In ongoing PSHE work, they develop skills to form friendships and think about relationships with others. Through work in science children learn about life cycles of some animals, understand the idea of growing from young to old and learn that all living things reproduce. They learn about the importance of personal hygiene to maintain good health. In RE and Citizenship 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. They begin to co-operate with others in work and play and begin to recognise the range of human emotions and ways to deal with them. They also learn about personal safety.

Key Stage 2

In science, children build on their knowledge of life cycles and learn about the basic biology of human reproduction including birth of a baby in years 5 & 6.

Children are taught about the physical, emotional and social changes at puberty, which include personal hygiene. In RE and Citizenship, they continue to develop an understanding of relationships within a family, between friends and the community and that there are different patterns of friendship. They will develop skills needed to form relationships and to respect other people's emotions and feelings. They will consider how to make simple choices and exercise some basic techniques for resisting pressures. Sex and relationship education should focus on the development of skills and attitudes not just the acquisition of knowledge.

Parents and Sex Education

We appreciate the sensitivity and concerns some parents may feel towards SRE and, therefore, we invite parents to borrow the materials we use in the school. We believe that for the children to achieve the desired objectives, a positive and united relationship must continue to exist between home and school and we would encourage discussion about this area of the curriculum at home.

In promoting this objective we:

- Inform parents/carers about the school's SRE policy and practice;
- Answer any questions that parents/carers may have about SRE of their child;
- Take seriously any issues that parents/ carers raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for SRE in the school;
- Encourage parents/carers to be involved in reviewing the School's Policy and making modifications as necessary;
- Inform parents/carers about the key messages that parents/carers give to children at home.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child (ren) from that part of the SRE programme that is delivered through PSHE (though not from those elements taught through Science).

Parents/carers who wish to withdraw their children from this aspect of SRE should discuss this with the Headteacher.

Differentiation and Special Educational Needs

We recognise that all children will have varied life experiences and a range of feelings and attitudes. Lessons will allow all perceptions to be articulated, and all contributions will be valued and respected.

Teachers may need to use different resources, activities or provide specific support depending on the needs of the pupils. Teaching points need to be conveyed using language that is accessible to the pupils.

Equal Opportunities

Boughton and Dunkirk Primary School is committed to working towards equal opportunities in all areas of the School's life. We aim to avoid stereotyping and believe that pupils' religious beliefs and cultural differences should also be respected.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct SRE lessons in a sensitive manner and with consideration for the need for confidentiality, but should issues of disclosure regarding inappropriate sexual behaviour/activity, then the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection. In such cases, procedures as laid down in the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy will be followed.

Monitoring and review

Governors require the Headteacher to keep a written record of the content and delivery of the SRE programme that is taught at Boughton and Dunkirk Primary School.

See also the school's Online Safety policy (on school website)