

STEPPING STONES

Short Stay School



Relationship and Sex Education (R.S.E.) Policy

Reviewed and updated-April 2019

Intention:

SRE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

The aims of sex and relationship education (RSE) at Stepping Stones are to:

- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place

RSE is not compulsory in primary schools. However, primary schools are required to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum.

At Stepping Stones we do teach RSE, and so have regard to guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

Implementation:

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHCE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

The first of two weekly PSHCE sessions is based on the school's PSHCE scheme of work. Each class focusses on key units relevant to our children each term. These units are: **Understanding of Self, Keeping Safe and Relationship and Sex education.**

Upper Key Stage 2 pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional from Brook.org. All pupils receive visits from the NSPCC to support the teaching of keeping safe.

Across all Key Stages, pupils will be supported with developing the following skills:

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness, seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work

These skills are taught within the context of family life.

All children display sexual behaviour on a continuum from normal and healthy to harmful. Staff have attended trained in supporting children who are displaying behaviours that are not developmentally expected. School use the Brook Traffic Light Tool for guidance and support.

Parents' right to withdraw

Parents' have the right to withdraw their children from the [non-statutory/non-science] components of RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the headteacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from RSE.

Impact:

- The delivery of SRE is monitored by the PSHCE leader through monitoring.
- Each class has an Evidence of progression book which is monitored by the PSHCE co-ordinator.

Updated: 5/03/19

To be reviewed April 2020