

Cavendish and Knowleswood Federation

Relationship and Sex Education Policy



Cavendish
Primary School



Knowleswood
Primary School

Aims

The purpose of our RSE programme is to develop pupil's knowledge, skills and attitudes so that they make informed choices about their behaviour, feel confident and competent about acting on these choices, and move with confidence from childhood through to adolescence. By using a well-structured on-line programme (SCARF), we complement and support the work of parents and carers. Other related policies and documents include: The Anti-Bullying Policy, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Equality policy.

The aims of RSE at our school are to:

- Work closely with parents, carers and governors in the dissemination of information on RSE and develop a partnership approach thus ensuring that all pupils receive the best RSE;
- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Develop positive values and a moral framework which will guide pupil's choices, judgements and behaviour into adolescence and adult life;
- Give regard to the age, emotional and physical maturities of pupils within all age groups taught, including those pupils with special educational needs and ensure equality of opportunity and experience.
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships

How our Policy was formulated

This policy was compiled through a review of the previous 'SRE policy' now called 'RSE'.

The policy was also reviewed in line with recent guidance provided in *Relationships and Sex Education, Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers* (Dfe, 2019).

Equal Opportunities Statement

The federation is committed to the provision of RSE to all of its pupils. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds. Equal time and provision will be allocated for all groups but there may be occasions where children are given extra support.

Content

The school follows a PSHE scheme of work, Coram Life – SCARF, this includes the RSE curriculum. This is an age appropriate curriculum used by many schools across the country.

Further information about the curriculum can be obtained on our website or using the following link:

<https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/scarf/>

Organisation

RSE should not be delivered in isolation but firmly embedded in relevant curriculum areas. The main content is delivered during PSHE and Science lessons. RSE is normally delivered by the class teacher in mixed gender groups, other than when it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups. Class teachers make choices about ways of working, as appropriate to their own classes.

Before embarking on the session, a set of ground rules to create a safe environment for both adults and pupils is established. Pupils are encouraged to discuss and question and where necessary distancing techniques are used to avoid embarrassment and maintain privacy. Pupils are encouraged to reflect on their learning and following sessions.

Visitors may be invited in to school to support this work because of their particular expertise or contribution they are able to make; all visitors are familiar with and understand the school's RSE policy and work within it. They are supervised/supported by a member of staff at all times and their input is monitored and evaluated by staff and pupils. This evaluation informs future planning.

Assessment and Evaluation

Elements of sex education in the science curriculum are assessed formally using guidance from the Rising Stars science scheme. Assessment and evaluation of the RSE programme outside science is conducted using a variety of informal activities which are built into the curriculum. This could include peer assessment and self-assessment. Teachers delivering RSE constantly evaluate their lessons to inform future planning. Any formal recording of work will be kept in topic or subject-related books. Much of the work will be verbal and informal.

Specific Issues within SRE

Withdrawal

Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Relationship and Sex Education provided at school except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum Science.

Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the Head of School and/or PSHE Subject Leader who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the RSE programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed.

Child Protection Issues

Concerns and issues related to child protection will be referred to the designated safeguarding lead.

Answering Difficult Questions

Staff are aware that views around RSE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all RSE issues are taught without bias. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect others that may have a different opinion.

Pupils' questions are answered according to their age and maturity. Questions do not have to be answered directly and can be addressed individually or referred to parents/carers later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to parents, carers or the designated safeguarding lead if they are concerned.

The federation believes that RSE should meet the needs of all pupils regardless of their developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with issues arising.

Dissemination

All staff members and governors have access to the RSE policy. The RSE policy is available on the school website, paper copies can also be requested from the school office.