

Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Rationale

The 1994 Department of Education sex education guidance suggested that primary schools should prepare children to cope with the physical and emotional challenges of growing up and to give them an elementary understanding of human reproduction. This statement remains appropriate to today's society. We, at Goosewell Academy, recognise the needs of the children and have developed a Sex and Relationship Education programme for each year group.

Purpose

Our sex and relationship scheme of work will allow children to:

- Develop mutual respect and care for others
- Air their feelings and views and feel safe to ask questions
- Develop skills relevant to decision making in sexual behaviour and relationships
- Become aware of a range of views about sex and relationship related issues and reach their own, informed opinions
- Have access to accurate information so as to combat ignorance, misconceptions, stereotypes and prejudice
- To be better prepared for their future life.
- Teaching and Learning

A scheme of work for the teaching of Sex and Relationship Education at Academy is defined separately.

The scheme of work has been designed to show progression as the children become increasingly mature and inquisitive. It is important that lessons be delivered in a sensitive manner, bearing in mind the family circumstances of individual children and in a relaxed and supportive environment.

Where possible, cross-curricular links should be capitalised on and some have been suggested in the scheme of work.

Planning Sex and Relationship Education

Long-term plans are defined for each year group within the scheme of work. Activities related to Sex and Relationship Education should be defined in the Health Education box on the termly PSHE planning sheet. These medium-term plans are monitored by the PSHE co-ordinator.

Teachers are expected to evaluate activities at the end of each term.

Inclusion

In common with all other areas of the curriculum the teaching programme for Sex and Relationship Education should be differentiated to meet the needs of children at different ages and stages of development.

The teaching of Sex and Relationship Education should acknowledge the needs of children from different cultural or ethnic backgrounds. There may be occasions, particularly with children in Upper Key Stage 2, where it is appropriate and sensitive to teach children in separate sex classes.

Parental Rights

Rather than being opposed to sex education, the majority of parents support it. However, a parent does have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of a sex education programme, where it is outside the National Curriculum. This right is acknowledged but we encourage parents to recognise the importance and value of this area of the curriculum. Parents will be informed each year of the Sex and Relationship Education to be undertaken by their child.

Reviewed annually

We are currently in a period of consultation with children, parents, staff and governors in order to create a RSE curriculum that is relevant to the needs of our children whilst also incorporating the statutory guidelines that take effect in September 2020.