



## Manor Primary School Policy Document

### **Sex & Relationships Education Policy**

Written / Reviewed	November 2015
Approved by Governors	2/12/15
Next Review Date	December 2017

*Our vision is to create a school community where children grow into happy, confident and responsible individuals, who work hard together to achieve their full potential.'*

## **Rationale**

Sex and Relationship Education is part of lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about respect, love and care, stable and loving relationships and understanding the importance of family life. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity. We aim to work in partnership with parents and support their role as the key providers of Sex and Relationship Education.

## **Aims of Sex and Relationship Education**

The aim of Sex and Relationship Education is to help and support pupils through their physical, emotional and moral development. Pupils should learn to respect themselves and others as they confidently move from childhood, through adolescence into adulthood. Sex and Relationship Education has three main elements:

- **Attitudes and Values**
  - learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
  - learning the value of family life and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
  - learning the values of respect, love and care;
  - exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas;
  - developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.
- **Personal and Social Skills**
  - learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
  - developing self-respect and empathy for others;
  - learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice;
  - developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
  - managing conflict;
  - learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.
- **Knowledge and Understanding**
  - learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
  - understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships;
  - learning about contraception and support services;
  - learning the reasons for, and benefits to be gained by delaying sexual activity;
  - the avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

## **Provision for Sex and Relationship Education**

Sex and Relationship Education will be incorporated into the primary curriculum using three main methods:

1. Through the P.S.H.E. framework.
2. Through National Curriculum Science
3. By tackling Sex Education topics as they arise e.g. puberty, bullying.
4. All pupils should have equal opportunity to gain access to, and benefit from Sex and Relationship Education.

## **Organisation and Methods**

Sex and Relationship Education will be taught by the class teacher in all years as part of the wider P.S.H.E. Curriculum. Teaching methods will include whole class and group teaching, group discussion, project work, circle time, role-play, assemblies and individual investigation. Approved sources of information will include books, posters, videos, computer software, artefacts, visiting speakers and visits out of school. Other agencies, e.g. the school nurse, to be used as appropriate. Materials and methods will be differentiated wherever possible to allow for effective learning by pupils.

Children in their third term of Year 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to learn about the emotional and physical changes that occur during puberty, sexual reproduction, pregnancy and birth in a series of lessons introduced by DVD. Teachers will create a positive, caring atmosphere where questions about sexuality and reproduction can be asked and will be answered truthfully and sensitively, avoiding embarrassment on either side. Any questions concerning sensitive issues, such as homosexuality or AIDS, will be given a simple, balanced and objective answer. All information given will aim to develop the skills and attitudes needed to behave in a morally responsible, healthy and safe manner.

To ensure all questions are answered and that new information is fully understood, the children will be divided into smaller, single-sex groups for at least one session to discuss issues further.

Parents will be invited to an evening session beforehand where they can preview the video, view resources, and discuss lesson content with the staff involved.

## **Management**

All teachers are involved in Sex and Relationship Education as part of their general teaching responsibilities, but it is managed and co-ordinated by the PSHE Co-ordinator.

## **Liaison with Outside Agencies**

It is the policy of this school to work closely with:

- The Advisory Service of the Local Education Authority.
- The Youth Affairs Officer of the Police Service.
- Health Professionals e.g. school nurse.

The use of these agencies is subject to the overall aims and policy for Health Education of this school and compliments its work, rather than substitutes for it. Visitors should be known and approved by the Local Education Authority.

## **Resources**

When using teaching materials of a sensitive nature, teachers should be vigilant as to the possibility of misinterpretation and if in doubt should consult the PSHE Co-ordinator or Head Teacher. School resources for Sex and Relationship Education are stored in the PSHE Resource area. It is the policy of the school to add to these resources as finance allows.

## **Confidentiality and Child Protection**

Although children will be taught that certain information is private and inappropriate to share with a group, it is possible that children will divulge facts that staff and pupils should treat with complete confidentiality. Individual advice is not appropriate, but families can be referred to specific sources of help, advice and support. Unconditional confidentiality cannot be promised. If staff suspect a pupil is in moral or physical danger they should pass on the information to the headteacher, following the school's Child Protection procedure.

Staff should also be aware of their own vulnerability when teaching Sex and Relationship Education

## **Child Withdrawal**

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Sex and Relationship Education, except when a part of the Science National Curriculum.

## **Bullying**

Sex and Relationship Education promotes sensitivity to the needs and views of others and the school expects pupils to behave with self-restraint and dignity, showing respect for themselves and others. Good behaviour in school will be achieved if staff are alert to the signs of bullying and it is dealt with firmly in accordance with the Manor Primary School Behaviour Policy.

## **Complaints**

Manor Primary School is happy to receive suggestions and discuss concerns that will help staff identify areas of success and areas in which it could improve. If a concern cannot be resolved despite the best efforts of all parties, parents will be asked to follow the Complaints Procedure, as approved by the Governing Body of this school.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Teachers will assess the children's understanding and progress throughout the course of teaching and ensure provision is planned and adapted to meet the needs of all individuals.