



# SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION (SRE) AND DRUGS POLICY

Reviewed June 2015.

## Introduction

Our School's SRE and Drugs policy is concerned with the emotional health, well being and welfare of the pupils in our school. We will educate our children and offer them guidance as they move from childhood through adolescence to become independent young people and effective citizens. We will do this through PSHCE lessons, science lessons and specific SRE lessons. All lessons will be age appropriate and deal with issues relevant particular age groups. Where specific SRE lessons are taught, parents will be consulted and will have the right to withdraw their child after consultation with the head teacher.

## Our Aims

The aims to provide our children with not only the knowledge they need to make informed choices but to provide them with accurate unbiased knowledge about sex, relationships and drugs and give pupils the opportunity to acquire life skills that will help them make good use of this knowledge and grow into responsible members of our society.

### We aim to:

- Deliver a programme that builds upon self respect
- Promote a positive sense of the self
- Promote good relationships with others
- Promote good attitudes towards themselves and others and an understanding of differences between people and their viewpoints
- Equip our pupils with knowledge about the world in which we live
- Promote a healthy and safe lifestyle

- Provide opportunities, responsibilities and experiences that will prepare our pupils for the adult world.

## **SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION**

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is defined as 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development'. Pupils should be taught about the nature and importance of marriage for family life and bringing up children but it should also be recognised that there are strong and mutually supportive relationships outside marriage, so it is essential that there is no stigmatisation attached to children based on their own home circumstances. SRE is also about the teaching of 'sex, sexuality and sexual health'. (DFEE Sex and Relationship Education Guidance 0116/2000)

In our school sex and relationship education is part of the Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education Curriculum; the planning is tailored to both the age and physical and emotional maturity of the children.

Provision:

Sex and Relationship teaching will be delivered through National Curriculum for Science where the children are required to learn:

- That the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and re-production
- The main stages of the human life cycle
  
- Sex education at Deerhurst and Apperley will be developmental and age appropriate
- Our pupils will be taught about the nature of the human body and how it grows and changes

- Sex education will be taught within the context of relationships and family life.

Material used will be from a variety of sources as appropriate; resources and expertise from appropriate outside agencies may be utilised alongside teaching staff within the framework of this policy.

Discussion will be encouraged at all times.

Ground rules for discussion excluding personal questions of staff or pupils will be established.

We shall attempt to deal with questions in a sensitive, open, frank and matter of fact way.

Questions concerning homosexuality, sexually transmitted diseases and contraception will be answered if raised.

Difficult or explicit questions do not have to be answered directly; teachers will use their discretion in these situations.

Most groups will be mixed age and gender but if felt more appropriate, single sex or age groups may be formed.

We fully recognise that the primary role in children's sex and relationships education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supportive relationship with parents and carers and are keen therefore to:

- Inform parents about SRE policy and practice
- Encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy and making modifications to it as necessary

- Take seriously any issues that parents raise with teachers about the policy or arrangements for SRE in school

We are also keen to ensure that our children are satisfied with the quality process and usefulness of SRE teaching they receive. They will be consulted in Year 6, through a questionnaire, to determine their views and suggestions for future lessons.

Parents do have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the Sex and Relationship programme. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn they should discuss this with the Headteacher and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in.

### **SUBSTANCE AND MISUSE (DRUGS)**

For the purposes of this policy 'substances' are defined as; all legal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (lighter fuel, glue and aerosols etc), illegal drugs, over the counter and prescription medicines.

We accept that drugs and substances usually alter our body chemistry, feelings and perceptions. We acknowledge that alcohol, tobacco and illicit substances are part of your people's lives and that the number of young people who use and misuse substances is rising but we also recognise that a larger number of young people are choosing not to use or misuse substances.

Our aim and approach therefore is in line with the National Curriculum, the Government's 10 year Strategy for Tackling Drug Misuse and recent advice from the Department for Education and Skills (DfES/0092/2004).

In our school Substance Use and Misuse is part of the Personal Social and Health Education Curriculum. Units of work on the theme of 'Medicine and Drugs' have been designed to ensure a sequential development of skills, knowledge and attitudes in children. The planned programme provides accurate information about substances relevant to the pupil's age and maturity is responsive to pupil's needs and will develop a holistic awareness of substances.

The units of work for Substance Use and Misuse are taught by the child's class teacher who may from time to time involve other professional in the delivery of this work.

We value substance education as part of our holistic view of health education and it is thus a vital part of our whole approach and commitment to being a healthy school. Our substance education will therefore:

- Enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, exploring their own and other people's attitudes and developing and practising skills
- Promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles
- Provide accurate information about substances
- Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- Encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance use
- Widen understanding about related health and social issues

### Dealing with drug related incidents

There are a variety of situations that would constitute a drug related incident, which are outline below:

- Pupil under the influence of drugs/alcohol/other substances
- Discovery of drugs/alcohol/paraphernalia/other substances on a pupil
- Disclosure
- Suspicion or rumour
- Drugs/alcohol/other substances/paraphernalia found on school premises
- School staff/parents/carers/persons external to the school community under the influence of drugs/alcohol/other substances on the school premises

### Collecting evidence

The law permits school staff to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being a controlled drug for the purpose of protecting a pupil from harm.

The substance should be handed to the police or disposed of in the presence of a witness.

It is open to a member of staff to search pupil's drawers where he/she has reasonable cause to believe it contains unlawful items - this should be done in the presence of a witness and the pupil.

Pupils can be asked to turn out their pockets and make their bags available for searching; physical searches should not be carried out by the teacher. If a pupil refuses, the police should be called in to deal with the incident.

### Records

Records will be kept using the LA's drug related incident form; this will only be shared with key people with consent from The Headteacher.

### Responses and support

There will not be an automatic response to a drug-related incident - any response will be taken after considering all the relevant facts and information about the pupil and the circumstances in which the incident has come about. The school response will be part of a supportive network to ensure that the school uses its powers to protect the long term welfare of all the pupils in the school.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

Class Teachers and Teaching Assistants conduct PSHCE lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. Children's questions will be answered as honestly and fully as appropriate. However, if a child makes references to anything which gives cause for concern (e.g sexual abuse, illegal substance use) then clearly such matters cannot remain confidential. Staff will report such incidents to the Headteacher who will decide whether the matter should be dealt with as a child protection issue. (See Child Protection Policy). Children will be made aware of our confidentiality policy, through the production of 'circle time' rules.

Staff will also refer to parents, questions, which arise that are outside of the scheme of work.



## **VISITORS AND THE USE OF OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

The school will use several outside agencies to contribute to SRE and drugs, as well as other aspects of the PSHCE programme. These will include the School Nurse, Police Officers and SkillZone. Preparation and planning of such visits will be carefully undertaken in order to maximise the benefits of the visit. Visitors will be made aware of the School's Confidentiality policy. Visitors will not take sole responsibility for classes and class teachers will always be present.

### **REVIEW**

Updated June 2015 for approval at the Full Governing  
Body Meeting July 2015.

Signed: Pauline McEvoy                      Head teacher                      Date:

Signed: Jonathan Dibble                      Chair of Governors                      Date: