



Baslow St-Anne's Church of England Sex and Relations Policy



Growing healthy minds and hearts together

“Life in all its fullness”

Respect...Kindness...Diversity



Version/ Issue	Date	Author	Reason for Change	Minute number
1	September 2015	D Sumner		
2	November 2018	M Clark	Additional PSHE scheme	
3	October 2021	M Clark	Change of KRG/additional coverage	
4	March 2023	M Clark		09/c&s/03/23
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Principles and Values

At Baslow St. Anne's Church of England Primary School we believe that it is vitally important that everybody is safe, confident and happy in our school community. We aim to provide an environment in which our children feel safe, secure and confident, are respectful citizens in and out of school and nurture the Christian values that underpin all that we do. We believe that our children and staff should lead 'a life in all its fullness', nurturing our vision of growing healthy minds and hearts together, embedding our core values: respect, kindness and diversity in all that we do. We strive to ensure this is in place to enable every child to achieve their full potential and be prepared for their next step in life.

Introduction

This policy is in line with the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance issued by the DfE (ref DfEE 0116/2000). It was drawn up by the Senior Teacher responsible for Year 6 at the time, together with the Head Teacher, in consultation with governors and parents of current and former pupils, and following feedback from pupils who completed the Sex and Relationships Education programme in 2015.

In this DfE document, which is the most recent official guidance given to schools on the matter, Sex and Relationships Education is defined as: 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health'. At Baslow St Anne's, we also recognise that stable and loving relationships can take many different forms, and acknowledge that our pupils will come from a wide range of family backgrounds.

Aims and objectives

Through an effective programme of Sex and Relationship Education, we aim to make children more confident in their own bodies, better prepared for the changes which occur, safer and more respectful in their relationships. Through education about what is appropriate and acceptable, within our social and legal frameworks, children are better able to keep themselves safe and know what to do if they feel uncomfortable. Sex and Relationship Education does not "sexualise" children, but rather prepares them for the future, enables them to ask questions which they would otherwise try to answer in other ways, and discuss topics which may otherwise worry or upset them.

We recognise the changing and evolving challenges posed by modern society, especially with regard to internet safety, safe use of mobile technologies and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and we take our responsibilities very seriously in this regard. We aim to inform and equip children with skills to help them to stay safe, now and in the future.

We teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- the way humans reproduce;
- respect for their own and other people's bodies;
- sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term, and loving relationship;
- the importance of family life;
- different kinds of relationships;
- respect for the views of other people;
- what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters

Context

Baslow St. Anne's is a Church of England School and actively promotes Christian morals and values. Sex and Relationships Education is part of a wider Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum and is taught in the context of a loving, caring family life, with an awareness of the moral code and values which underpin all our work in school.

Organization

We teach Sex and Relationship Education through different areas of the curriculum. Whilst much of it is covered in Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) through our scheme JIGSAW, several areas fall within the scope of the statutory Science curriculum and some aspects are discussed in PE, as they relate to our physical development and understanding of our own bodies.

SRE in Science

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from aspects of the sex education content that does not fall within the Science curriculum. The statutory curriculum is as follows:

- **Key Stage 1:** children learn about how animals, including humans, move, feed, grow and reproduce, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body.
- **Key Stage 2:** children learn about reproduction and the human life cycle in greater depth, including puberty.

SRE in PSHE

In PSHE, in all year groups, we teach children about relationships, and we encourage children to discuss issues and concerns with a trusted adult. We

teach children how to stay safe, including online, and who they can turn to if they are worried about something. They learn to treat others with respect and to be aware of other people's feelings. We teach through our core values of diversity and respect, that we are all unique and different and that we respect differences including how family units may be made up and different relationships.

In Year 5, we place a particular emphasis on physical and emotional changes during puberty (including periods), as some children are beginning to experience puberty at this age.

Year 6 SRE

In Year 6, we devote more time to Sex and Relationships Education allowing more time to question and discuss key issues that may arise. In these sessions, we discuss:

- marriage and other forms of relationship/family units
- puberty
- male and female bodies
- periods
- wet dreams
- personal hygiene
- managing feelings
- emotions
- sexuality
- sexual reproduction and the human life cycle
- keeping safe
- peer pressure
- consent, assertiveness and avoiding exploitation
- the law
- contraception
- staying safe on the internet and in electronic communications

These sessions are conducted in a safe learning environment, where nobody is expected to answer a personal question or forced to take part in a discussion and everyone will treat each other with respect. Correct names for body parts are used from Reception upwards and words and processes are explained in a sensible and factual way. To aid our discussions, we use appropriate diagrams, pictures and video clips produced by the BBC specifically for primary schools.

For some of the time, boys and girls are taught separately, to enable the children to ask questions with minimal embarrassment, and to enable us to deal in more detail with some gender-specific issues. However, the children will all

cover the same basic subject matter and where possible we keep boys and girls together so that they are informed about the development of both genders.

For the duration of ~~the week~~ this time, there is a box in the classroom, into which children may post questions that they may not feel comfortable asking directly; we answer any sensible questions and deal honestly and openly with any concerns the children may have; we might have a follow-up discussion, for this purpose, a few days later. If questions are asked which fall outside the scope of the topics outlined above, then the teacher will exercise his/her professional judgement and answer accordingly.

Before the teaching of SRE commences ~~3-day block commences~~, we write to parents with details of the content and structure of these sessions (the parent letter is on the school website under 'Key Information – Curriculum') and invite them to ask any questions they may have or discuss any concerns. They are welcome to see the materials that we use, if they wish, and they are informed of their right to withdraw their children from all but the statutory components (as set out in the Science curriculum).

Teaching Aids and Materials

Aspects of SRE which fall within the science curriculum and may be supplemented by other age-appropriate resources chosen by the class teacher.

Our main PSHE resource is our JIGSAW scheme which covers relationships as part of the scheme coverage.

Our main Year 6 Sex and Relationships Education block follows the BBC Active SRE programme, which includes diagrams, animations and video clips.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils will be taught at a level which is appropriate not only for their chronological age, but also for their level of maturity and understanding.

The role of parents

The school is well aware that parents and carers play a central role in educating their children in these matters.

Parents of current and former pupils have been consulted in the formation of this policy.

We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation.

In promoting this objective we:

- inform parents about the school's Sex and Relationships Education policy and practice, and publish this alongside overviews from JIGSAW on the school website;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the education of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for SRE in the school;

We believe that, through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information, children will benefit from being given consistent messages about their changing body and their increasing responsibilities.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from **all but** the statutory content contained within the Science curriculum. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education aspects of the lessons, they should discuss this with the Head Teacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. Whilst this happens rarely, we would always respect the wishes of the parents in this matter.

Confidentiality, Safeguarding and Child Protection

Teachers conduct Sex and Relationships lessons and discussions in a sensitive manner, respecting children's right to privacy. However, any disclosure which causes concern will be reported in line with the law and our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

The role of the Head Teacher

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our Sex and Relationships Education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Headteacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are able to teach SRE effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity. The Headteacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy and provision.

The role of the Governors

Sex and Relationships Education falls under the remit of the Key Role Governor for PSHE (Chloe Thomas).

Monitoring and review

The Curriculum and Standards sub-committee of the governing body monitors our sex education policy on an annual basis. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The Curriculum Committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the Sex and Relationships Education programme.

Written by D. Sumner 21st September 2015

Reviewed November 2018 M Clark

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