

Dinting Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Sex, Relationships Education Policy (SRE)

Rationale

SRE is lifelong learning process of acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex, sexuality, relationships and feelings (sex education forum 1999)

Effective SRE can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being.

The 1996 Education Act consolidates all relevant previous legislation and states that all primary schools must provide an up to date policy that describes content and organisation of SRE provided outside the National Curriculum Science Order. The DFE Sex and relationship guidance (2000) supports this legislation and recommends that all primary schools should have a sex and relationship education programme tailored to the age and physical and emotional maturity of the children.

Other related policies and documents include the PSHE and citizenship policy, anti-bullying policy, drug education policy and the safeguarding policy.

Aims and Objectives

This policy is a working document which provides guidance and information on all aspects of SRE in the school for staff, parents/carers and governors. To be accessible to all these groups the document is available upon request.

Moral and Values Framework

The SRE programme at Dinting Primary School reflects the school ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values

- Respect for self;
- Respect for others;
- Responsibility for their own actions;
- Responsibility for their family, friends, school and wider community;

Equal Opportunities Statement

The school is committed to the provision of SRE 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 pupils with Special Educational Needs are given extra support from SEN staff.

Content

In Key stage 1 pupils learn to recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others, identify and share their feelings with each other, recognise safe and unsafe situations and identify and be able to talk to someone they trust. All staff are trained in procedures for safeguarding and following guidelines set out in school with regards to reporting concerns to the Designated Senior Person (Lynn Elliott).

In Key stage 2 pupils learn to express their opinions about relationships and bullying and to listen to and support other, including respecting other people's viewpoints and beliefs.

They learn to recognise their own worth and identify positive things about themselves and try to balance the stresses of life in order to promote their own mental health and wellbeing of others. Life process are discussed including physical changes that take place at puberty, why they happen and how to manage them. Pupils explore ways to protect themselves from unwanted sexual advances, abuse and exploitation. In our church school, children are brought to appreciate the wonder of God's continuing creation through growth and reproduction. We help to sensitively reinforce the values of family life and prepare children for the joys and responsibilities of relationships.

A range of materials are drawn upon to ensure SRE is delivered to all children throughout the school and is tailored to each child's needs and level of understanding.

Organisation

SRE should not be delivered in isolation but firmly embedded in all curriculum areas, including Personal, Social Health Education (PSHE) and citizenship. At Dinting Primary School the *main* content is delivered in PSHE lessons.

SRE is normally delivered by class teacher's in mixed gender groups other than when it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups. Active learning methods which involve children's full participation are used.

Occasionally, appropriate and suitably experienced and/or knowledgeable visitors from outside school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of SRE in school.

The role of visitors in regards to SRE

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

Dinting Primary School believes in the importance of training for staff delivering SRE. Staff are encouraged to access appropriate training and support to help them deliver effective SRE

Specific Issues within SRE- Withdrawal

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationships education provided at school except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum. Those parents /carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to meet the Headteacher 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 SRE programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed.

Confidentiality

As a general rule a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he talks to the designated senior person and a decision will be made.

The child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and the reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process.

Safeguarding

The school has a separate safeguarding policy. Effective SRE may bring about disclosures of safeguarding issues and staff should be aware of the procedures for reporting their concerns

Controversial and Sensitive Issues

Staff are aware that views around SRE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all SRE 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.

Dealing with Questions

Both formal and informal SRE arising from pupils' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the designated senior person if they are concerned.

Sexual Identity and Sexual Orientation

Dinting Primary School believes that SRE should meet the needs of all pupils regardless of their developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. Bullying is dealt with strongly yet sensitively. The school liaises with parents on this issue to reassure them of the content and context.

Dissemination

SRE policy is shared with all staff through the staff handbook and is available from the school office on request from parents.

Assessing and Monitoring

The SRE policy is to be reviewed every 2 years and appropriate amendments to be made as necessary.

Information from staff, survey results and data will all feed in to the review of the SRE policy to ensure effectiveness and relevance.

September 2014	Reviewed and approved, staff 29.9.14 and governors 2.10.14
March 2016	Reviewed and approved, staff 14.3.16 and governors 23.3.16
March 2018	Reviewed by staff – next review March 2020
March 2020	Reviewed by staff- next review March 2022