



BROOK STREET SCHOOL

SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

AIMS OF SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS OF SCHOOL SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMME

At Brook Street School we believe sex and relationships education to be a life long learning process based on the acquisition of knowledge, skills and the development of positive attitudes and skills. We believe we should nurture a responsible attitude towards personal relationships, include aspects of mutual respect and care.

- Knowledge of loving relationships
- Knowledge of human reproductive processes
- Knowledge about personal hygiene and related health issues

We need to educate about discrimination, prejudice and empower children to make informed choices about relationships and sex. We believe there is no age too young to begin to learn about sex and relationships. We believe that sex education relationships should begin in the nursery and continue until the children leave the school. We believe that sex education should be taught formally and informally throughout the school.

We aim to

- Enable young people to make responsible and informed decisions.
- Help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development.
- Help young people to develop the skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives.
- Provide accurate information and help young people to develop skills to enable them to understand difference and respect themselves and others, and for the purpose also of preventing and removing prejudice.
- Promote spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of young people at school, and help prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- Enable young people to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others.
- Give schools ownership of policy and practice through a whole school approach, in consultation with parents and governing body.
- Build self esteem and confidence.
- Equip children with communication and decision – making skills.
- Develop relationships skills.

MORAL AND VALUES FRAMEWORK

Children should be taught sex education within a framework, which models and encourages the following values.

- A respect for self
- A respect for others
- Non – exploitation in sexual relationships
- Mutuality with sexual relationships
- Honesty with self and others
- A development of critical self awareness for themselves and others

- An exploration of the rights, duties and responsibilities involved in sexual relationships.
- Compassion, forgiveness, mercy and care when people do not conform to their way of life.
- An acknowledgement and understanding of diversity regarding religion, culture and sexual orientation.
- Self discipline regarding their sexuality.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The sex education program will:

- Provide information which is easy to understand and relevant and appropriate to the age and maturity of the children.
- Include the development of communication and social skills.
- Encourage the exploration and clarification of values and attitudes

Topics and themes will be repeated each year in greater depth taking account of pupils development and the curriculum content.

ORGANISATION OF SCHOOLS SEX EDUCATION

Co-ordinator

Sex and relationships education will be co-ordinated by the head teacher in close co-operation with both teaching and non-teaching staff as well as the PSHE co-ordinator.

Delivery and content

- Selected parts of topic work
- Through planned aspects of Science
- Through circle time
- Through the occasional assembly
- Through the use of outside visitors (eg the school nurse)
- Through the use of story time and RE

The content may be

- Implicit – interpersonal relationships, communication
- Thematic – myself
- Cross-curricular – respecting others through religious Education
- Science curriculum – keeping healthy/sex education
- Discrete – through PSHE/Citizenship

Teaching Methods

Active learning methods which involve children's full participation will be used. In Year 5 the explicit teaching of human reproduction and relationships will be taught, single gender may be used if appropriate and relevant.

Resources

Each class teacher has a range of books available within their own classroom and from the school library. Extra materials can be obtained from the library service and the school nurse. In year 5 the channel 4 DVD – All About Us Living and Growing is used.

Who will teach it

All staff should be committed to delivering the program, however if a member of staff feels ill equipped to take on the program the Head teacher will deliver the program or seek support for the teacher from an outside agency.

Liaison with Secondary Schools

Through liaison meetings with the secondary schools information regarding sex education will be shared and staff kept informed.

Specific Issues

Parents retain the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Sex and Relationships Education, except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum. If parents make this request they will be invited to school to discuss their concerns and view teaching materials and resources. If parents wish to view the Year 5 DVD in advance of the lessons this will be arranged. We will ensure any pupils with special educational needs will be properly included in our sex and relationships education.

It is almost inevitable that effective Sex and Relationships Education, which allows for open discussion to take place, may lead to disclosures from pupils. If this be the case staff will treat this as a child protection issue and established pathways will be followed.

Where there is a cultural or ethnic mix of pupils within a class, teachers will make themselves aware of pertinent issues related to the needs of these pupils. If necessary further advice may be sort eg. Discussion of some topics in a mixed sex group is forbidden in some religions.

Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1998 prohibits local authorities from intentionally promoting homosexuality and the Secretary of State recommends that there should be no direct promotion of sexual orientation. However the school will help pupils to develop skills to enable them to understand difference and respect for themselves and others. This will lead to a greater understanding of the nature of sexuality, hopefully removing prejudice and bullying which can lead to mental distress and isolation.

Support Services

In order to deliver the Sex and Relationships curriculum external agencies can be used. The School Nurse, Advisory Teachers and counselling services are available to support the delivery of the curriculum.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Review of the policy will take place on a 2 yearly cycle. Initially staff will be asked to review the implementation of the policy, and feed back to the Head Teacher any changes that need making. On going discussion will take place at staff meetings to monitor the effectiveness of the Sex and Relationships Education Policy. Parents will also be consulted on the content and delivery of the policy.

Training

Regular opportunities for staff update and review exist through

- Local Inset Network

All Newly Qualified Teachers are given access to training if available opportunities in their induction Theory period.