

Marwood Primary School

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Review Date: June 2013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Marwood Primary is a community primary school for girls and boys aged 4-11. The school presently has 112 children on roll who come from both single and dual parent families. In each year there are a few children identified with special educational needs. There is a wide social mix and very varied family backgrounds. The school covers a very rural area and also has children who travel in from the local town. The school has an active PTA, which involves itself mostly in fund-raising and supporting the teachers.

POLICY FORMATION AND CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Head teacher has overall responsibility for the sex and relationship education policy. The process for developing a sex and relationship education policy (SRE) was agreed at a Governor's meeting. The previous sex and relationship education policy, equal opportunities and special needs policy were all reviewed alongside the Ofsted report. The policy was adopted by a full governing body in 2010. It will be reviewed every 3 years.

The following issues were considered:

- new legislation for community primary schools
- moral and values framework
- content of the programme
- delivery of the programme
- teaching approaches
- use of visitors
- child protection
- withdrawal of pupils
- monitoring and review of the programme

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Sex and relationship education at Marwood School meets the requirements of section 1 of the 1988 Education Reform Act and is based on the DfEE guidance document 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' (ref DfEE 0116/2000). The school curriculum should be one which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society. Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parents, from part of the sex and relationship education programme that is outside the compulsory elements of sex and relationship education in the National Science Curriculum.

Under the 2004 Children's Act schools are required to respond to the Every Child Matters Agenda.

Sex and Relationship Education makes particular reference to the following objectives:

- Children and Young People are physically healthy
- Children and Young People are mentally and emotionally healthy
- Children and Young People are sexually healthy
- Children and Young People live healthy lifestyles
- Children and Young People are safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation
- Children and Young People develop positive relationships and choose not to bully or discriminate
- Children and Young People develop self-confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges
- Children and Young People engage in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school

AIMS OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

Marwood Primary School believes that sex and relationship education in this school will be developmental and a foundation for further development in the secondary school. The school will work towards these aims in partnership with the parents. The aim of the sex and relationship education policy is to clarify the content and manner in which sex and relationship education will be delivered in this school.

Other school policies which have relevance to sex and relationship education are:

- Equal Opportunities
- Behaviour/ Anti-bullying
- Child Protection
- Special Educational Needs and Inclusion
- Children looked After
- Teaching and Learning
- Drugs Education and Incident Management
- PSHE and Citizenship
- Confidentiality
- Race Equality
- Partnership
- Science
- RE

MORAL AND VALUES FRAMEWORK

The sex and relationship education programme will reflect the school's over-arching aims and demonstrate and encourage 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

This school is committed to working towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life. All resources used will support this commitment.

CONTENT

The sex and relationship education programme will:

- provide information that is relevant and appropriate to the age and developmental stage of the pupils
- develop skills of assertiveness, communication and effective dialogue in relationships
- encourage the exploration and clarification of values and attitudes
- foster self-esteem, positive self-image and confidence

Topics and themes will be revisited from year to year taking account of the pupils' development and the spiral curriculum concept. The content of the sex and relationship education programme including learning outcomes will be based on the recommended LA sex and relationships education curriculum programme using 'Health for Life' as a framework and the All About Us SRE for 5 - 11 year olds - Living and Growing.

Topics will include:

Differences	Class 1
Differences How did I get here? Growing up	Class 2
Changes How babies are made How babies are born	Class 3
Girl talk Boy talk Let's talk about sex	Class 4

ORGANISATION

Sex and relationship education will be co-ordinated by the head teacher in close co-operation with the PSHE Co-ordinator.

SRE will be delivered in the summer term each year through a variety of teaching approaches: - as topics

- through planned aspects of science
- addressed occasionally in assembly time
- through planned visits from parents and younger and older siblings
- through pastoral time
- through small group work
- through SEAL activities
- through story time
- through PSHE lessons

Active learning methods which involve pupils' full participation will be used. Single sex groups will be used as and when deemed appropriate.

The resources used will be made available for parents to view at an annual parents' meeting. Individual parents can also view resources by contacting the head directly. Marwood Primary is committed to working towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life. All resources and teaching methods used will support this commitment. At present all members of staff are committed to delivering the sex and relationship education programme. They are supported by an in-service training programme.

SPECIFIC ISSUES

- **Parent consultations and pupil withdrawal procedures**

Marwood Primary School is committed to working with parents. Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parents, from part of the sex and relationship education programme that is outside the compulsory elements of sex and relationship education in the National Science Curriculum. Parents wishing to exercise this right are invited to contact the head who will explore the concerns and the possibilities of adjusting the programme or approach. He will discuss the possible impact that withdrawal may have on the pupil and will talk with the parents about the pupil's possible negative experiences or feelings that may result from exclusions and ways which these can be minimised. Once a pupil has been withdrawn they cannot participate in sex and relationship education until the request of withdrawal has been removed.

- **Confidentiality / Child Protection**

Teachers need to be aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue.

The staff member will inform the head teacher/ designated child protection person.

Marwood Primary School has a Safeguarding policy and procedure for dealing with child sexual abuse based on the LA guidelines and recommendations. This policy is available on request.

A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist. Pupils will be made aware that information cannot be held confidential and that their best interests will be maintained.

- **Teaching and Outside Agencies**

At Marwood Primary School, SRE lessons will be taught by class teachers. Outside agencies will be used to support and assist the teachers in the development of the classroom based work. On rare occasions outside agencies may be involved in classroom based work as part of the developmental programme following discussions and negotiation. They will be required to work within the school's moral framework outlined earlier. Lessons will only have a teaching input from any one other than the class teacher, when there is a clear enhancement that they can bring. In this instance these sessions will be jointly planned and jointly run between teaching staff and the visitor and the class teacher will be present at all times. The schools procedure for working with external agencies, including criminal record bureau checks, will be followed, alongside the teaching and learning policy. Currently the School Nurse assists in teaching the SRE programme in Class 4.

- **Answering difficult questions**

Ground rules are essential to provide an agreed structure to answering sensitive or difficult questions. This framework facilitates the use of an anonymous question box as a distancing technique.

Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit or difficult question in the classroom. Teachers will endeavour to answer questions as honestly as possible but if faced with a question they do not feel comfortable answering within the classroom, provision would be made to meet the individual child's need later. The governors support individual teachers in using their discretion and skill in these situations and can refer to the head if they are concerned.

- **Provision for pubertal pupils**

Sanitary Disposal Units are located in the disabled toilet. Girls requiring sanitary protection should go to the school office.

- **HIV/AIDS policy**

The school follows the procedure outlined by the County council with regard for supporting pupils or staff infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. See website

http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/cyps/families/hiv_aids/support_for_children_with_hiv_aids.htm

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Any complaints about the Sex and Relationships Education Programme should be made to the Head Teacher who will report to the governors via the link governor.

DISSEMINATION OF THE POLICY

All staff members and governors will receive a copy of this policy. A short summary of this policy will be included in the school prospectus. The policy is published on the schools website.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING

Teachers assess the children's work in Sex and Relationships Education both by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons and by doing formal assessments of their work, measured against the specific learning objectives set out in the National Curriculum. We have clear expectations of what the pupils will know, understand and be able to do at the end of each key stage.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

A nominated governor will have a link role between the school and the governing body. The PSHE coordinator is responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching. The co-ordinator supports colleagues in the teaching of Sex and Relationships Education, by giving them information about current developments in the subject and by providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.