

Queen's Hill Primary and Nursery Sex and Relationships Policy

Introduction

This policy has been developed by the PSHE leader following National Curriculum and guidance from Healthy Norfolk Schools. Staff, pupils, parents and carers were consulted during the policy development process. It is no longer a statutory requirement to deliver SRE during the Primary Phase. However, at QHPS believe that the knowledge and understanding that this element of the P.S.H.E. curriculum provides is invaluable.

Background Information

Queen's Hill Primary and Nursery school is a growing school set in an area of mixed social and private housing. The families are from varied social and ethnic backgrounds. The school is in a period of rapid growth with pupil numbers increasing on a weekly basis. The school is working towards achieving Healthy School Status.

Policy Statement

What is Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)?

SRE at Queen's Hill Primary and Nursery School is part of the PSHE curriculum and will develop the children's understanding of relationships and sex by providing accurate information within a moral framework.

Why should SRE be taught?

Children receive information about Sex and Relationships from a variety of sources, much of this information is inaccurate or unhealthy. We aim to counterbalance these messages by providing accurate information in a safe, supportive environment. This will support the children when dealing with puberty, help them to understand issues relating to sex and reproduction and help them to develop and maintain successful relationships.

We will demonstrate to children that matters relating to the body and sex can be discussed in a sensitive and positive way. If children feel more comfortable communicating about relationships and sex, the likelihood of them behaving responsibly in any sexual relationship they go on to have is increased

Legal Requirements

The law relating to SRE states:

The governing bodies of schools are required to keep an up to date SRE Policy that describes content and the organisation of SRE provided outside the National Curriculum science orders.

Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their children from SRE lessons.

Other Related Policies and Documents

This SRE policy can also be linked to these policies:

Confidentiality policy

PSHE policy

Safeguarding Children Policy

Drug Education policy

Teaching and Learning Policy

Visitors policy
Inclusion policy

Aims and Objectives

The policy

This policy is a working document which provides guidance and information on all aspects of SRE which aims to provide a secure framework within which staff can work.

Staff, governors, parents and carers and school visitors have access to this policy. A free SRE policy is available from the school on request.

The SRE programme

Queen's Hill School aims to provide children with

- the skills needed for successful relationships
- a moral framework that will guide their decisions and behaviours
- opportunities to understand and celebrate difference and diversity
- an understanding of their own bodies
- the confidence and awareness of how to seek help and advice
- self esteem, self awareness and emotional health
- an awareness of the right they have over their own body
- the skills to be assertive
- good communication skills
- the skills and knowledge to make positive informed choices
- the ability to respect the right of others to hold opinions that differ from their own as long as these views do not impact on the rights of others.
- the ability to take responsibility for and accept the consequences of their own actions
- the knowledge to reduce the risks to their own and the health of others

Moral and Values Framework

Queen's Hill School teaches SRE within a moral and values framework that promotes:

- Self respect
- Respect and acceptance for others regardless of background, culture or sexuality
- The right of people to hold their own views (where these views do not impact negatively on others)
- An awareness of the uniqueness of individuals
- Responsibility for personal actions
- Empathy, mutual support and co-operation
- Honesty
- The right not to be abused or to be taken advantage of
- The right to accurate information about sex and relationship issues

Equal Opportunities Statement

Queen's Hill School is committed to the provision of SRE for all its pupils. Equal time and provision will be allocated to all pupils with the exception of pupils with Special Educational Needs who will be given extra support. Our SRE programme is inclusive and accommodates the diversity within any group of people in terms of gender, religion, language, race, culture, social background, appearance, family set-up, special needs, ability or disability.

Content and organisation of the SRE Programme

Our SRE programme begins at Year one and we follow a rolling spiral programme ensuring that whilst specific activities are not repeated, the content of the programme is reinforced and built upon with age appropriate information each year. SRE is taught as part of the PSHE programme and will take place over a six week period in the Summer term each year. It is taught in PSHE and Science lessons, as appropriate. See **appendix one** for a summary of the SRE programme content.

The content was decided following an investigation of the pupil's prior knowledge, consultation with parents and carers and meetings with staff, governors and Norfolk Healthy Schools. Local and National guidance was taken into consideration.

The resources we use are chosen and checked to ensure that they are age appropriate, inclusive, up to date and accurate. We ensure that they promote positive values and give healthy, unbiased messages.

SRE is delivered predominantly by the child's class teacher but may be delivered by another member of staff who the children are familiar with. Visitors, such as a school health professional, may be invited to enhance the programme by delivering informal sessions. All visitors delivering PSHE will be made aware of our SRE policy. Please see our Visitor's policy for further information.

If a member of staff feels uncomfortable delivering PSHE, we allow that teacher to opt out and the children will be taught by another member of staff. This option is available as the extreme discomfort of a staff member will impact on the quality of SRE delivery.

Our SRE provision will be monitored and evaluated through discussion, pupil evaluations, teacher evaluations and assessments. It is the responsibility of the individual teachers and the PSHE Team to ensure that effective monitoring takes place after each SRE lessons.

Before each block of SRE lessons, parents are informed by letter of the content of the SRE lessons, of their right to a copy of the SRE policy and of their right to withdraw their child from SRE lessons. Parents are invited to view any materials and discuss the content with the P.S.H.E

Specific issues in SRE

Provision for parents wishing to withdraw their children from SRE lessons

Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE at school except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited to discuss their objections and concerns and reflect on the impact 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.

Materials are available to parents/carers who wish to supplement the school SRE programme or who wish to deliver SRE to their children at home.

Safeguarding children statement

SRE may bring about disclosures of safeguarding children issues and all staff are conversant with the procedures for reporting their concerns.

In these cases the school's safeguarding children policy needs to be referred to.

Confidentiality Statement

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, they talk to the named child protection coordinator who may confer with the head teacher before any decision is made.

Dealing with sexually explicit questions

At Queen's Hill Primary School we will:

- Allow individual staff to use their professional judgement as to answering questions in front of the whole class or individually
- make it clear, through ground rules, that nobody should ask personal questions
- be prepared to modify the programme if a certain question recurs (perhaps because of media coverage)
- use an anonymous question box (a box in the classroom that pupils can 'post' written questions). This box may also be used as a 'buffer' for teachers, if they feel they would like time to consider their answer to a specific question.
- Encourage pupils to ask their parents/carers any question outside the planned programme.
- with the pupil's permission inform parents/carers about questions their child has asked.
- make provision for questions about sex, reproduction and puberty to be answered individually, as they arise, outside the planned programme. Inform parents and carers of this decision in the school prospectus so that they can exercise their right for this not to happen with their child
- tell pupils that their question will be answered in a later part of the SRE programme.

Acceptable and appropriate language

All Staff will

- use the correct terms for all body parts as this is deemed good practice.
- teach pupils what 'slang' words mean if answering a question and make it clear that some are offensive.
- avoid the use of any slang except when explaining its meaning in response to a question

Ground rules

All classes will agree ground rules before the block of SRE begins and they must include the following:

- Respect will be shown at all times.
- No personal questions are acceptable in SRE lessons.

We will make it clear to the children that we will keep confidentiality but if we feel that a child is at risk, we will need to refer the matter on.

Strategies will be developed to ease embarrassment if it occurs

Single and mixed sex groups

All pupils will learn the about both sexes however where possible opportunities will be made for pupils to discuss matters further in single sex groups or individually

Appendices

Appendix 1- Summary of SRE programme content

Policy Dissemination

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Policy Reviewed by Eli White 2017

Agreed by staff on _____

Agreed by governors on _____