



Sex + Relationship Education Policy

Policy lead:	Head teacher
Link Governor:	Mr M Maclean
Date of last review:	June 2017
Date for next review:	June 2020

SEX + RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

This policy is in line with the DFE Guidance Curriculum + Standards Document REF DFEE 0116/2000.

Aims and Objectives

One of the central responsibilities of Widewell Primary Academy is to educate our children for life in the real world in which they will find themselves. Central to this is the fostering of feelings of self-worth and the promotion of a sense of moral responsibility.

One of the major principles upon which our health and sex education is based is the understanding that the children are in control of their own health and hygiene and that behaving in different ways will have clear and predictable effects on their health and future. The aim in this is to lead children towards adopting a healthy life-style. We aim to instil a sense of confidence in their understanding of the facts and issues involved in health education and a willingness to take on a personal responsibility for their own well-being.

We seek to provide an awareness of the nature of their own bodies including their physical processes and development, and to develop a comfortable understanding of the similarities and differences between all human beings.

We seek to provide an awareness of the positive issues involved in building a family and the joys of parenthood. We also seek to clarify the negative issues involved, including the extent of the commitment involved, the loss of personal freedom and the risks involved in unplanned pregnancy. Part of this will involve a brief introduction to what is involved in contraception. We also try to prepare children for the many and various pressures (e.g. peer pressure, media images etc.) to which they will be subject.

It is our aim to afford children the opportunities to express and share their attitudes, beliefs and prejudices, to build respect for the attitudes and beliefs of others and to consider the many different kinds of personal relationships which exist. We seek to provide a balanced view of the differing influences of family, peer groups, culture, community, the legal profession and the media.

We try consistently to provide the opportunity for children to have any questions they may have answered in the right context and tone to resolve their anxieties.

The school nurse visits the school in Y5 and Yr 6 to undertake a programme of sex education which is in line with national guidelines. Resources include appropriate videos and charts.

The framework for sex and relationship education is within PSHE and Citizenship and ensures that all children

- develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships
- are able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work
- can protect themselves and ask for help and support
- are prepared for puberty

Moral and Values framework

We always seek to develop the children's understanding of the issues related to sex in the context of loving and stable relationships. We promote high self-valuation and respect for the value of others.

We instil an understanding that others may have different values and that these may be just as respectable as our own and we begin to develop in the children an understanding of the implications and responsibilities of parenthood.

Organisation

The teachers in charge of the Yr5/6 classes are jointly responsible, with reference to the Headteacher, for the planning and delivery of sex education.

The majority of instruction is undertaken in the mixed classroom context as it is important that both sexes understand their mutual responsibilities. Additional instruction is provided for girls in regard to menstruation. Opportunities are provided for questions to be posed both in the whole group context AND in private.

The vocabulary and approach to instruction is judged each year to meet the level of understanding and maturity current that year. At the end of each year the teachers involved review the effectiveness of their teaching and note how it can be delivered more effectively in the next year.

Specific issues

Contraceptive advice is handled briefly in the ethical context of planning for the family you are committed to care for.

The Headteacher is responsible for issues of child abuse. The staff are aware of signs of which they should take particular note. If a child displays any sign of abuse the teacher refers his/her concern to the Headteacher

If a parent specifically makes representations to the school to have their child withdrawn from sex education lessons this is done. Provision is made for the child to work in another class for the period of the instruction.

If a parent has any concern with the way in which sex education issues are handled they may complain to the Headteacher. If they are dissatisfied with the response they receive their complaint should be re-directed to the Chairman of Governors.

Information with regard to HIV and AIDS is not normally provided. Specific questions will be answered with sensitivity as they arise.