

## Within the PSHE curriculum

Sex and Relationships Education sits partly within Science but also within Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE).

From the moment children enter Reception they learn about forming positive relationships with others. This is reinforced throughout the whole of their school life. As children get older, their learning follows a natural path of progression.

The table below shows the SRE topics that will be covered.

Y2	Differences: boys and girls Differences: male and female Naming the body parts Growing from young to old
Y4/ Y5	Changes throughout the life cycle Physical and emotional changes associated with puberty Puberty and hygiene Identify feelings and learn how to deal with them.
Y6	Puberty and reproduction Relationships and reproduction Conception and pregnancy Being a parent

Classes will cover puberty in Year 4 or 5. This decision will be made in conjunction with staff and parents and is dependent on whether we feel that the children are ready to cover this unit of work.

## Contacts and Guidance

If you have any questions or concerns about your child and Sex and Relationship Education, there are several lines of support for you.

You can speak to the Head, Mrs Stott or Mrs Carter (PSHE leader) on 0113 2930699 or by appointment at school.

Alternatively you may wish to contact different organisations that offer support and guidance in this area. For example:

The Sex Education Forum, National Children's Bureau  
[www.sexeducationforum.org.uk](http://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk)

Family Lives (previously Parent Line Plus)  
[www.familylives.org.uk](http://www.familylives.org.uk)  
Free phone 0808 800 2222

If your child asks you a question, think carefully about what they are asking. Many parents panic slightly and give a much fuller response than the child wanted. If you believe that your child asks something inappropriate, it could be that they have just 'heard words' used and are unsure what they mean.

You might find the book "Questions Children Ask" by Miriam Stoppard useful – we have a copy in school. We also have leaflets and books which will support both you and your child.



## Sex and Relationships Education

A summary of our whole school approach

## Why is SRE important?

SRE aims to support children's emotional development by educating them about relationships and emotions. It is tailored to the age, physical and emotional maturity of the children.

SRE is not a 'one-off' event but an ongoing process of education which begins in Nursery. From an early age children begin to learn about relationships and are taught how to express their feelings. SRE links with work in other subjects. Towards the end of the primary phase children will learn about puberty, about the importance of loving relationships, understand how a baby is conceived and the importance of marriage and stable relationships for family life.

Our children learn about sex even if we don't talk with them about it. Some of the things they learn are incorrect, confusing and frightening. In a world where sex is used to sell things from food to fast cars and celebrities' lives become everyone's business, we should talk to our children to help them make sense of it all.

It is crucial that we support our children in feeling good about themselves and their bodies. At the heart of this, we work to ensure that children develop high self esteem.

## Our aims

- To educate children about relationships, focusing on friendships, bullying etc – supporting children's emotional development and improving self esteem;
- To develop personal and social skills and a positive attitude to physical wellbeing;
- To help children to grow up feeling confident about their emotional and physical health;
- To educate children about health issues and personal hygiene;
- To educate children about age-appropriate developmental issues, including puberty, onset of adolescence, conception and the birth of a baby;
- To begin to give pupils an understanding of the issues that will prepare them for the challenges and responsibilities of emotional, moral and sexual maturity from a (faith) perspective;
- To promote pupils' moral and social development and prepare pupils for the responsibilities of life, supporting them on their journey through childhood and adolescence to adulthood.

## What will we teach the children?

### In Science the children will learn:

#### In Key Stage 1:

- That animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.
- To recognise and name the main external parts of the human body.
- That humans can produce offspring and these grow into adults.
- To recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others and treat others with care and respect.

#### In Key Stage 2:

- Life process common to humans include nutrition, growth and reproduction.
- The main stages of the human cycle.

### Your right to withdraw your child

You may **not** withdraw your child from the parts of SRE covered in Science as these have, by law, to be taught. (see details above)

You may, following discussion with the headteacher, request to withdraw your child from the SRE not covered in Science. In making this decision, you should think carefully about :

1. How your child will learn this information
2. The fact that your child will no doubt hear about the content of lessons from other children and this may be an inappropriate and unsafe way.

Please speak to the headteacher before making any decision to withdraw your child. If you still plan to go ahead, your decision must be given in writing.