

GREAT CHART PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIP POLICY

(To include Sex and Relationship Education)

September 2018



Our vision is to create a school community where children participate, succeed and are proud of their achievements. We strive to actively promote British values and prepare our children to become role models, thus preparing them for life in modern Britain

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Approved by and latest review: July 2018

Rationale

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships, keeping safe and ourselves. Kent LEA have encouraged the relationship part should come first, encompassing relationships in all settings including, home, community and school. SRE at Great Chart Primary School is taught within the framework of guidelines outlined by the DfES and the objective is to help and support our children through their physical, emotional and moral development. Our programme covers the statutory elements of the Science National Curriculum and is also firmly embedded in our SMSC/PHSE curriculum. The school undertakes the responsibility of teaching SRE in a caring manner, appropriate to the age and ability of the children and being sensitive to the needs of individual children and their families. We aim to help our children learn to respect themselves and others, build healthy relationships and prepare them with confidence for the passage through puberty into adolescence.

Aims

We aim, within an environment where children feel confident and valued;

- To develop accurate, age appropriate vocabulary which children can use to communicate SRE matters.
- To inform children about personal hygiene and related health issues, to enable them to respect and care for their bodies.
- To explore the nature of family life and loving relationships.
- To emphasise the value of sex within a stable, loving relationship where care and respect are paramount.
- To help recognise appropriate and inappropriate sexual behaviours enabling them to protect themselves and keep safe.
- To know how a baby is conceived and how a baby is born.
- To inform of the changes that male and female bodies undertake during puberty.
- To build knowledge and skills to understand differences by countering myths and misinformation through examining opinions.
- Understand differences by respecting others relationships and removing prejudice.

The teaching of SRE

It is our belief that the best possible form of teaching SRE is by our class teachers as they know the children best and are aware of their needs and abilities.

However, we may occasionally use outside visitors to support the class teacher when we feel it would be beneficial. In this case, there will be a close liaison between any visitor and teacher in charge and a teacher would remain present in any such situation.

The teaching of SRE will always take into account the developmental and individual differences of our children. We have introduced The Christopher Winter project to form the basis of our SRE education, after extensive research into a programme that suits the needs of our children. Before this was introduced to the school, the Head teacher and I met with a group of parents to introduce the concepts and objectives integral to this programme. After this consolidation, we then invited all the parents in to discuss any concerns or worries about the teaching of this delicate subject. The new programme was welcomed by all and any questions were answered. We agreed that each class teacher would inform parents when they are planning to teach these important lessons and outline the key objectives to be covered.

We recognise that sometimes it will be appropriate for teaching to be organised on a one to one basis, small group, class or single sex group. The school is sensitive to both cultural and individual needs and will consult parents where appropriate to establish what is appropriate and acceptable for the child.

There are times when SRE is specifically taught and times where a discussion may arise incidentally, for example if a family breaks down or a mother becomes pregnant. It is part of our SMSC/PHSE policy to discuss and encourage our children to share their concerns or worries so it is not possible to always teach SRE in isolation, nor separate all the occasions when SRE will occur. There will, however be specific lessons in which the teacher will teach about the sexual aspects of the programme. Parents will be notified of this before the children are taught and be invited to discuss the exact objectives their child will be learning and how it will be delivered. Other parts of the SRE will be taught through the delivery of the Science curriculum and within our SMSC/PHSE lessons, together with assemblies and the RE curriculum.

Science links to SRE

Key Stage 1

- That animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults.
- That animals, including humans have basic needs for survival (water, food, air)
- To recognise, name and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans
- To describe the importance of health in humans (exercise, keeping clean and healthy eating)
- To recognise the similarities and differences between themselves and others and treat others with sensitivity

Key Stage 2

- That animals, including humans, need the right types and amounts of nutrition.
- Describe the changes in the human life cycle.
- Recognise the importance of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle and how this impacts the way their bodies function.

Pupils who ask for individual advice

Helping pupils who want advice about personal problems has always been part of the school ethos. These may come in the form of questions face to face or through other avenues such as our worry eaters. These questions are at the discretion of the class teacher and may be discussed through the teaching of SRE, PHSE, Circle Time or on a 1-1 basis with the child. If necessary, the child may be encouraged to discuss their concerns with a parent depending on the questions that arise. However, where requests relate to sexual activity or abusive relationships the teacher will give advice within a professional role and in compliance with the school child protection policy.

Child Protection

The teaching of SRE will, at all times, comply with the school Child Protection Policy. Teachers should always discuss any concerns with one of the designated Child Protection Officers.

Working with parents and carers

The school is committed to sharing its role in delivering SRE with parents/carers. The teaching offered will be supportive to the role of parents.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of sex education, apart from the statutory areas covered in the National Curriculum Science. Any parents requesting withdrawal are invited to discuss their concerns with a senior teacher to discuss the matter. All parents are given the opportunity to view all resources available before the teaching begins and are sent a letter informing them of the objectives that their child will cover.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is of the utmost importance to our school but no teacher or staff member operating within the school will offer children unconditional confidentiality in the event of a personal disclosure in relation to his or her own current or intended behaviour or the behaviour of others including family members. In the event of a disclosure the adult will explain to the child that the information may need to be passed on to

parents/carers or other responsible adults if it is the best interest of the child. The child would then be offered further support by the class teacher or FLO Marion Golik. All children will be urged to speak to parents/carers in the first instance if they can and the school will provide guidance and support in doing this.

There are extremely rare occasions when a child of primary age is sexually active or contemplating sexual activity but if this occurs in our school, it will be viewed as a child protection issue and referred to one of our Child Protection Officers. The designated staff will then make sensitive arrangements and ensure that parents/carers are informed. Child protection issues will be discussed and help will be provided for the family.

Differentiation

Lessons are planned in order to take into account different levels of maturity and life experiences of the children within the class. Teachers will ensure that there is ample opportunity to allow different perceptions to be articulated, with all contributions being valued and respected.

The needs of specific children with additional needs will be addressed through the provision of additional adult support or differentiated activities where appropriate. If individual children have specific targets (IEP) relating to their personal development, opportunities will be planned to support and monitor the child achieving these.

Links to other school policies

Identify the links with SRE to other school policies including:

- PHSE/SMSC
- Behaviour
- Inclusion
- Anti-Bullying
- Health and Safety
- Safe-guarding children
- RE
- Science
- Safeguarding
- Confidentiality

Monitoring, Evaluating and reviewing

This policy and the teaching of SRE will be reviewed every 2 years using a consultation process which identifies teachers', children's and parents feedback on the SRE programme. The SRE leader will encourage parents feedback throughout the year and make regular times to meet with staff to see how the curriculum is being implemented. Small groups of children will be invited to discuss how they feel about the teaching of SRE within our school.

Next Review Date

July 2020

