

Sex Education Policy

Review 2014

Prees C.E School Our Mission Statement

Christian values are the foundation upon which Prees C. E. School is built.

St Chad's church is at the heart of our school and the wider community.
The cross of St Chad symbolises our link through the ages to the Cathedral of our
Lichfield Diocese.

We are committed to promoting Christian values such as love, peace, forgiveness
and self-control, to enable our children to develop into the people they are meant
to be.



Believe and Achieve

Sex Education Policy

Description of Policy Formation and Consultation Process

Sex Education is a statutory requirement in Primary schools, but it is only a small section of our overall PSHE teaching which encompasses Sex and Relationship Education. This Programme of Study includes the aspects of ('keeping safe', 'my moods', 'keeping healthy', 'friendship', etc.) SRE is also linked with the work on Human Life Cycles in Science.

Clear and unambiguous Sex and Relationship Education provides information to equip children in order to safeguard their social, emotional and physical health.

It is not our school policy for teachers to take over the role from parents in this very important part of every child's education, but hopefully teachers will work in partnership with them to the benefit of each pupil.

Aims

- To establish what the pupils already know and understand what their needs are.
- To provide a curriculum for sex education which is sensitive to the needs of the children.
- To foster a culture of acceptance and openness where children can ask questions and discussions take place without embarrassment.
- To help pupils accept the variations in rates of growth, development and understand changes (both physical and emotional) which occur at different stages of life.
- To help pupils understand the value of family life and the need for proper care of all young living things.
- To help develop skills in personal relationship.
- To help build and develop self-esteem.
- To help children to understand their rights and to be able to say 'no'.
- To promote equal opportunities.
- To promote a partnership with parents in order for home and school to work together

Organisation

In most areas of the Sex and Relationship education taught in school, the class teacher will be responsible for the delivery of the subject. Occasionally it may be appropriate to provide a female member of staff to work with a male teacher in order to provide a forum where both boys and girls are willing to ask questions and discuss aspect that they do not understand.

However, in the later stages of Key Stage 2 the theme, 'Life Cycles' (Year 5) will include the aspect of human reproduction.

Before the children embark on their learning about Human reproduction, parents of children will be consulted, informed that this aspect of the curriculum is to be taught and offered the opportunity to view any resources used. Currently we use the Channel 4 Schools video 'Living and Growing' (for 7 – 9 year olds) which explains the differences between boys and girls, how humans are conceived, developed in the womb and born with the emphasis on the need for parenting.

Parents will be able to comment and ask questions on the teaching of this part of the curriculum and will be told of their 'right to withdraw their children from some or all of it.'

Furthermore, all parents whether they attend the meeting or not will be asked to return a consent form giving permission if they are willing for their children to take part in the lessons covering this aspect within the sex education policy. Children will not be included in the sessions if no reply slip is received.

At the time when the children are taught using the materials outlined, the class initially will be taught together in a sensitive environment.

The video(Changes) is viewed with opportunities to ask questions or to privately write anonymised questions if this makes children feel more comfortable. There will be opportunities for single sex and joint discussions, as appropriate, according to topic and maturity of the children.

The girls during this time will cover the aspect of menstruation and how to deal with this in school.

Furthermore, it will be explained to the girls that all female teachers and ancillary staff will be available to give help and advice if it is needed in school with appropriate supplies of sanitary towels kept in school.

The boys, while in a separate group will be taken by a male member of staff when they will be able to ask appropriate questions regarding the video.

In these sessions the professionalism of those in charge must solely keep to the content of the video and discuss menstruation with the girls and intervene if it is felt that questions in discussion is likely to become too explicit. It is **not** for teachers or those involved to discuss aspects beyond that shown in the video.

In the second session the children, again in one group, will watch the final two programmes on the video ('How Babies Are Made' and 'How Babies Are Born') which again is felt to be appropriate to the age and needs of the pupils which emphasises the need for parenting.

In conclusion it should be stressed that school is aiming to work alongside parents, supporting them in dealing with the aspects outlined in this policy. We aim to use materials appropriate to the needs of our pupils, teaching in a sensitive manner remembering that the pupils in our school are still of primary age and that aspects of a sex education policy will continue and be developed in the future at home and in secondary schools.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct sex education lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved, or likely to be involved in sexual activity, then the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection. Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse. In these circumstances the teacher will talk to the child as a matter of urgency. If the teacher has concerns, they will draw their concerns to the attention of the headteacher. The headteacher will then deal with the matter in accordance with the Child Protection Policy.

The role of the headteacher

It is the responsibility of the headteacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our sex education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the headteacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

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