

GERMANDER PARK SCHOOL

Sex and Relationships Education Policy



Statutory Requirements

It is a statutory requirement upon the Governing Body to decide what the Sex Education teaching at the school will contain.

At Germander Park School we aim to:

1. Acknowledge and compliment the role of parents as sex educators and make our policy available to them.
2. Teach Sex Education in a cross curricular way, with the content appropriate to the age of the children and containing only the factual aspects included in the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.
3. Provide acceptable vocabulary for parts of the body during Physical Education, Science/Health Education lessons and also, as appropriate, within other areas of school life.
4. Respond honestly to questions from the children which are age appropriate and to consult parents, should inappropriate questions be asked by their child. The level of detail in answers given to children should take into account the child's age and maturity and should remain within the framework of this policy.
5. Help the children to understand that they have rights and that they have control over who touches their bodies. This is part of helping children to stay safe.
6. Acknowledge that Sex Education is about developing sensible and respectful attitudes, as well as learning about factual information.

Principles, aims ethos and values

The general philosophy of our school is one where children's observations relating to all subjects are respected and listened to and used as a means of developing their understanding of the world. Sex education in our school is not seen or taught as an isolated subject. There are, however, several ways in which the children are encouraged to develop attitudes which will enhance their lives and relationships, as young children in preparation for adolescence and subsequently adulthood.

The staff endeavour to create an atmosphere where children feel comfortable and able to question and talk openly. Consideration is given to the local authorities policy on equal opportunities and strategies discouraging non-sex stereotyping are used e.g. computer, technology and structured play.

Equal Opportunity

The school organisation ensures that the children have equal status. All pupils will have equal access to the Sex Education Curriculum. Consideration will be given to any particular religious or cultural factors bearing on the discussion of sexual issues and to the degree of explicitness of the concepts and presentations to be used. Consideration will also be given to the needs of pupils with English as an additional language.

Special Educational needs

Pupils with special educational needs may need more help than others in coping with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up and may also need more help in learning what sorts of behaviour are and are not acceptable.

Foundation stage

Any questions raised by children in the early years will be dealt with sensitively and appropriately as the need arises.

Teaching

Sex Education is a responsibility which school shares with others. Provision for Sex Education should include opportunities for involving

governors, parents, families and the community so that what is learned at school can be supported by appropriate experiences at home and in the community.

Teachers have authority to give information, but not to offer advice. Children's questions about sex are treated sensitively and simply, often without requiring highly sophisticated or complicated responses. If an individual pupil raises a particularly explicit issue, teachers should exercise their discretion and judgement about how to deal with it. Teachers should normally discuss the child's concerns first with the parents to see how they would like the matter handled. Where the parents wish them to do so, it may be appropriate to respond individually to the child's question outside the classroom. We do not however intend to take over the role of parents but wish to work with them.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child wholly or partly from attending sex education in school, with the exception of aspects included in the Science National Curriculum.

Teachers must never promise confidentiality but should handle a sensitive question with tact i.e. 'I will listen to you and do my best to help you but I may need help from other adults to help you sort this out' If necessary inform the Child Protection Designated Teacher. All situations involving any form of abuse or child protection MUST be referred immediately to the school's Child Protection Designated Teacher. Other outside agencies can be contacted for support and information.

Specifically, the following aspects are to be covered at Key Stage 1 (5-7 years)

National Curriculum Science

Pupils should be taught:

- that animals, including humans, move, feed, grow, and use their senses and reproduce
- to name the external parts of the body
- to recognise similarities and differences between themselves and other pupils

Health Education is non-statutory, by the time the children leave Germander Park School we would like them to:

- know that humans develop at different rates and that babies have special needs
- be able to name parts of the body
- understand the concepts of male and female
- know about personal safety e.g. rights over own bodies, good and bad touches, and what to do and who to tell:
- begin to develop simple skills and practices which help maintain personal safety
- To discuss and counter gender stereotyping in role play books and drama.
- appreciate ways in which people learn to live & work together (listening, discussing, sharing)
- understand the importance of valuing oneself and others
- begin to recognise the range of human emotions and ways to deal with these
- To know and understand how to stay healthy including hygiene, diet and exercise.

The children enjoy topics linking all aspects of the curriculum, including such themes as growth, new life, families and homes. We also deal with issues raised by the children, involve parents or other agencies as necessary and thus lay the foundations for more specific work on sex education in Key Stage 2.

Signed HeadteacherDate.....
Signed Chair of GovernorsDate.....