



# Sex and Relationship Education Policy (SRE)

Links with:

Personal Social, Health and Citizenship (PSHCE) Policy

E- Safety policy.

Science Curriculum

## Introduction

Handale Primary School promotes health in its widest sense; attending to the physical, social and psychological development of its children and the maintenance of good health for all children. As part of this it is considered that the development of the emotions and self-esteem is central to its aims and a key element of this is a carefully considered and constructed Sex and Relationship Education Policy for all children in the school's care. Sex and Relationship education should happen in partnership with parents. It has become increasingly recognised that Sex and relationship education should be gradually developed as an integral part of the curriculum in a way that is appropriate to the age of the child. It is an entitlement for all children, as part of the curriculum requirements of Science (Life processes and living things) and health education. The potentially sensitive nature of the subject means that schools must add moral and social questions alongside. Sex and Relationship education is not just about reproduction and sexual health, but must also strive to enable children to act responsibly in making and maintaining relationships with others, to feel good about themselves and the choices they make, to develop assertiveness skills and the ability to respect themselves and others.

*"Learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health." (DfES Guidance Document DfES 0116/2000)*

In the context of this the school Sex and Relationship Education Policy aims to:

- ✓ Give clear and appropriate information and knowledge by answering children's questions openly, honestly and appropriately.
- ✓ Promote positive attitudes and values fostering of individual wellbeing.
- ✓ Promote the necessary skills for effective communication, long and happy relationships and positive behaviour and development.
- ✓ Challenging misconceptions - often complicated by mis-information.

These objectives can only be achieved as a developmental process beginning at the early years at an appropriate level and progressing through childhood and adolescence into adulthood. It is to this end that we have chosen to use a well-developed and recommended series of videos produced by Channel 4 Learning called *Living and Growing* and other suitable material.

### How does sex and relationships education (SRE) fit into PSHCE education provision?

Currently, in state maintained primary schools, only those elements of SRE contained in the science national curriculum are statutory. The secretary of State's Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DFEE, 2000) which strongly recommends a broader programme of SRE as part of PSHCE education. The content of this broader programme is decided by each school and constructed within Handale's SRE policy. In any school that provides SRE, parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of SRE (excluding withdrawal from sex education within the science national curriculum). At Handale, consent form from parents must be received before children partake in the SRE curriculum.

We will respect the beliefs of parents who wish to withdraw their child from a sex education programme. Parents cannot however withdraw their children from aspects of sex education, which are part of the Science National Curriculum. We will engage in a positive dialogue with a view to illustrating to parents the relevance and importance of such a programme to their child. Parents who still wish to exclude their child from a Sex and Relationship education programme will be asked to do so in writing to the Head teacher after discussing their concerns first. Before SRE sessions are delivered, parents will be informed in advanced and provided with a time scale in which they can raise any concerns. You **MUST** receive written consent for each child in your class before delivering the SRE session.

### Contribution of SRE to teaching in other curriculum areas

The skills that children develop in SRE are linked to and applied in every subject of our curriculum. The children's skills in developing relationships with others are practised all the time. Decision-making and choices are also key skills that filter through the curriculum.

## Conclusion

Sexual development is a natural process, just one aspect of growing up emotionally, socially and physically. Each is an integral part of growing to adulthood and independence. Our aim with the delivery of the SRE policy is to 'sow the seeds' of facts and understanding in advance of 'playground misapprehension'.

Our policy enables children to establish an awareness of their own development and to reflect upon their own relationships in positive ways. Ultimately the learning and teaching is about the promotion of self-esteem and the fostering of individual well-being.

## GDPR

Our school aims to ensure that all personal data collected about staff, pupils, parents, governors, visitors and other individuals is collected, stored and processed in accordance with the [General Data Protection Regulation \(GDPR\)](#) and the expected provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018) as set out in the [Data Protection Bill](#). This applies to all personal data, regardless of whether it is in paper or electronic format. For more information see our Data Protection Policy 2018 and Privacy Notices.

**Signed**



**SRE Subject Leader**

**Headteacher**

**Chair of Governors**

**Next review date: June 2021**