



## The Horsell Village School

### Policy for Relationships and Sex Education

We work to provide high quality education within a caring, secure and stimulating school Environment.

Our children are given every opportunity, help and encouragement to develop academically, emotionally, physically, socially and spiritually to their full potential.

**DOING OUR VERY BEST AND CARING FOR EACH OTHER**

At The Horsell Village School, Relationships and Sex Education is integrated into the Personal, Social and Health Education programme of the school, as well as being a topic in the Science Curriculum.

#### **Definition of Relationships and Sex Education**

Relationships and Sex Education is 'lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage as a context for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual behaviour.' (QCA, 2000)

#### **Aims and Objectives**

We want to develop pupil's knowledge, skills and attitudes so that they make informed choices about their behaviour, feel confident and competent about acting on these choices, and move with confidence from childhood through to adolescence.

This underpins our aims and objectives of our Relationships and Sex Education programme which are to:

- promote a concern for relationships with other people, respecting the rights and feelings of others; developing loving, caring relationships as friends, parents, members of a family and community, and ultimately sexual partners;
- provide knowledge of how the human body functions, how it grows and how we change physically and emotionally;
- emphasise the importance of self-esteem in encouraging all members of the school community to respect and care for their body and mind;
- develop positive values and a moral framework which will guide pupil's choices, judgements and behaviour into adolescence and adult life;
- present the facts about lifestyle choices in order for all pupils to then make informed judgements and to be prepared for the demands of life in the 21st century;
- create an ethos of positive relationships between all members of the school community, and for pupils to be given appropriate, accurate answers as naturally and honestly as possible to their questions on personal relationships and sex;
- work closely with parents, carers and governors in the dissemination of information and develop a partnership approach;
- **give regard to the age, emotional and physical maturities of pupils within all age groups taught, including those pupils with special educational needs, and ensure equality of opportunity and experience.**

All of these objectives contribute significantly to the five outcomes for 'Every Child Matters' (Children's Act 2004) – that pupils 'be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being'.

### **Curriculum Content**

The teaching of all relationship and sex education is set within a clear, balanced sensitive and moral framework in which pupils are encouraged to consider the importance of respect, acceptance of responsibility, sensitivity, self-esteem, dignity, self-restraint, loyalty and fidelity. It will start in the Early Years Department by developing personal and social skills, self-awareness and respect for others. Throughout the school different aspects of relationship and sex education will be taught through the units of the PSHE spiral curriculum.

### **Responding to Children's Questions**

During lessons on sex education children may ask questions about topics which are not specifically taught as part of a planned programme. The teacher has to decide whether:

1. To answer the question right away.

2. To ask the child to wait for the answer until the class has been dismissed.
3. To contact the child's parents.
4. To deal with the question in accordance with the school's Child Protection Policy because there is a child protection issue.

As a general rule if the question is about something which is likely to be appropriate to and relevant for the majority of the class, then it should be answered honestly, openly and right away.

#### Organisation

- Class teachers deliver this part of the curriculum. The school nurse and other health professionals are invited into school to provide expertise and information in Relationship and Sex Education for the whole school.
- A variety of teaching methods and resources are used to deliver the Relationship and Sex Education programme including circle-time, relationship building games, videos, books, 3D models, photographs, charts, posters and visiting agencies, e.g. 'The Life Education Centre'.