

## SEX AND RELATIONSHIP (SRE) POLICY

**Published:** Spring 2017

**Review Date:** Spring 2020

**Committee Responsible:** L&A

This policy covers our school's approach to teaching our pupils about sex and relationships. It has been produced in consultation with staff and governors and with reference to the Secretary of State for Education's guidance on sex and relationships education (2000) and guidance from the PSHE Association (2013). This policy will be made available to parents through the school website and in paper copy on request from the school office.

### Definition

SRE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

SRE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

**SRE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.**

### Aims and Objectives:

At Cranmere Primary School the aims of our SRE curriculum are:

- To enable our pupils to make informed and responsible decisions about their lives
- To complement and support the work of parents and carers
- To enable our pupils to maintain their physical, mental and emotional health and prepare them for the physical changes of puberty
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- To give pupils an age-appropriate understanding of the human body and human reproduction
- To enable pupils to develop and maintain healthy and positive relationships
- To equip children with life skills appropriate for 21<sup>st</sup> century Britain
- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place

### How will we achieve these aims and objectives:

Sex and Relationship Education is firmly embedded in the school's Science and PSHE curriculum. Through our progressive Science curriculum from Year R to Year 6, pupils learn the names and then functions of parts of the body; that animals including humans reproduce and the process of change as we grow from babies to adults, including the changes of puberty. SRE is embedded throughout the three themes of our PSHE curriculum: Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World. Pupils will be taught how to maintain good physical, mental and emotional health, develop and maintain healthy relationships including how to recognise risky or negative relationships, and recognising and respecting differences in beliefs, family structure and communities.

### What values will we promote?

Our approach to Sex and Relationship Education is built on the foundation of the school's values and we will encourage pupils to apply the 6Rs to their learning. We will promote the importance of stability and commitment in all relationships including sexual relationships. We will discuss the significance of marriage and partnership (including same sex marriage) with pupils as well as acknowledging that families can be made up in many different ways and the term "family" can mean different things to different people.

## **How will parents and carers be involved?**

Parents and carers are invited to review the Science and PSHCE curriculum through the school website and bring any comments or concerns to the attention of the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher. Where a specific or more sensitive area of the SRE curriculum is to be covered (such as human reproduction or puberty), parents will be notified by the school by letter of the proposed date of this lesson, the topics to be covered and the resources that will be used. Where appropriate, school will provide an opportunity for parents to review resources before the lesson.

SRE is not a statutory part of the curriculum and parents have the right to withdraw their child from any and every aspect of sex education that is not taught as part of the statutory curriculum. We will communicate this right to withdraw your child by letter when this is appropriate. We encourage you to make an appointment to discuss this with the Head or Deputy Head teacher before withdrawing your child.

## **How will we ensure that all learners are included and differentiate provision?**

We have a responsibility to ensure that all of our learners have equal access to our SRE programme. We will identify pupils' different starting points by using a range of techniques such as class and group discussion, drawing and writing activities, or asking pupils to come up with their own questions. This consultation and involvement of pupils will be conducted in an age-appropriate way, recognizing and respecting differences in maturity, personal circumstances, gender, faith or culture. Where appropriate we will arrange for boys to work separately from girls and with a staff member of the same sex in order to reduce potential embarrassment.

## **Assessment**

Children's progress and attainment will be monitored through standardized testing in the case of Science Units. Achievement in other aspects of SRE will be monitored through other methods such as observation in class, class discussions, drawing and writing activities.

## **Responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010**

The governing body of the school has a responsibility under the Equality Act to ensure that our school strives to do the best for all pupils, irrespective of disability, educational needs, race, nationality, ethnic and national origin, sex, gender identity, religion or sexual orientation.

As a school we respect that our pupils may choose how they identify themselves and understand that, appropriate to their age and maturity, their gender identity or sexual orientation may be emerging. We acknowledge the importance of presenting an unprejudiced view of adult relationships including same sex relationships. We believe it is crucial that our teaching prepares children for their life in the wider world, and we aim to support them to realise the nature and consequences of discrimination and bullying, as well as the use of prejudice-based language. We also aim to teach pupils how to respond to such discrimination and how to ask for help.

## **Who will teach the programme?**

The SRE programme will be monitored and led by the PSHE coordinator. It will be delivered by the class teacher or another member of school staff (such as HLTA). Where appropriate we will involve other professionals in the delivery of SRE such as the School Nurse. Parents will be informed when another professional will be involved in this delivery.

## **Parents' right to withdraw**

Parents' have the right to withdraw their children from components of SRE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the headteacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from SRE.