

Husthwaite and Sessay C.E. Federation

SEX and RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

We would like all the children at Husthwaite and Sessay C.E. Primary Schools to have an understanding of their bodies and be aware that human reproduction is part of the life cycle. When appropriate, the older children should have the opportunity to learn about some of the physical, emotional and social changes that they will experience in their lives. These sensitive issues should be partly dealt with through Science, Personal and Social Education (PSHCEE) and Health Education, but specific Sex and Relationships Education for the Year 5/6 children should also play an important role.

What Is Sex and Relationship Education?

Sex and Relationship Education is lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care, for family life. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

Principles and Values

In addition Husthwaite and Sessay CE Primary Schools believe that SRE should:

- Be an integral part of the lifelong learning process, beginning in early childhood and continue into adult life.
- Be an entitlement for all pupils in our care.
- Encourage every pupil to contribute to make our community and aims to support each individual as they grow and learn.
- Be set within this wider school context and supports family commitment and love, respect and affection, knowledge and openness.
- In our school and community we aim to encourage pupils and teachers to share and respect each other's views. We aim to generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on personal matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment.
- Recognise that parents/carers are the key people in teaching their children about relationships, growing up and sex. We aim to work in partnership with parents/carers.

Personal Development and Relationship Education in our school has three main elements:

Personal and Social Skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- developing self-respect and empathy for others
- learning to make choices with an absence of prejudice
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- managing conflict
- empower pupils with the skills to be able to recognise inappropriate/ uncomfortable situations and/or behaviours with their peers and adults

Attitudes and Values

- learning the importance of values, individual conscience and moral choices
- learning the value of family life, stable and loving relationships, and marriage
- learning about the nurture of children
- demonstrating the values of respect, love and care
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas

- developing skills including negotiation and decision-making
- challenging misconceptions

Knowledge and Understanding

- learning and understanding physical and emotional development at appropriate stages
- understanding physical and emotional changes and the development of relationships
- learning about reproduction, human sexuality and personal health
- learn about where to go for help or advice in school and how to access a range of local and national support agencies

Aims

The aim of Personal Social Health Education is to provide balanced factual information about physical and emotional changes, together with consideration of the broader emotional, ethical, religious, and moral dimensions of sexual health. Our PSHE programme aims to prepare pupils through an age and maturity appropriate curriculum, which will prepare them for an adult life in which they can:

- develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour; have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others and respect for individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationship they want.
- understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within developing relationships.
- avoid being pressured into uncomfortable or dangerous situations.
- communicate effectively by developing appropriate terminology for sex and relationship issues.
- develop awareness of their sexuality, understand differences and promote equality and diversity
- have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves from infection
- be aware of sources of help and acquire the skills and confidence to access health advice and support

Organisation and Content of Personal Development Education

Any PSHE lesson may consider questions or issues that some will find sensitive. Before embarking on these lessons ground rules are established which prohibit inappropriate personal information being requested or disclosed by those taking part in the lesson. When pupils ask questions, we aim to answer them honestly, within the ground rules established at the start of the sessions. When it is felt that answering a specific question would involve information at a level inappropriate to the development of the rest of the pupils, the question may be dealt with individually at another time.

At Husthwaite and Sessay CE Primarys School Sex and Relationships Education is taught through the use of the Channel 4 'Living and Growing' Educational DVD, PSHE lessons and the Science Curriculum.

Inclusion

Ethnic and Cultural Groups

We intend our policy to be sensitive to the needs of different ethnic, cultural and religious groups. We encourage parents/ carers to discuss any concerns with the Headteacher.

Pupils with Special Needs

We will ensure that all pupils receive age appropriate sex and relationship education, and we will offer provision appropriate to the particular needs of all our pupils, taking specialist advice where necessary.

Sexual Identity and Sexual Orientation We aim to deal sensitively and honestly with issues of sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support.

Right of Withdrawal of Pupils from Sex and Relationship Education

Some parents prefer to take the responsibility for aspects of this element of education. They have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum (i.e. in Science lessons). We would make alternative arrangements in such cases. Parents are encouraged to discuss their decisions with teachers and the Head teacher at the earliest opportunity. Parents are welcome to review any PSHE resources the school uses.

Confidentiality

It should be made clear to pupils that all adults in school cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality. This should be made clear when forming the class Ground Rules.

Safeguarding

A child under 13 is not legally capable of consenting to sexual activity. Any offence under The Sexual Offences Act 2003 involving a child under 13 is very serious and should be taken to indicate a risk of significant harm to the child. Cases involving under 13's should always be discussed with the nominated child protection lead.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Personal Development Education

It is the responsibility of the Head teacher and Leadership Team to oversee and organise the monitoring and evaluation of PSHE, in the context of the overall school plans for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning.

The Governing Body is responsible for overseeing, reviewing and organising the revision of the Personal Social Health Education Policy.

Ofsted is required to evaluate and report on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. This includes evaluating and commenting on the school's personal development policy (SRE), and on support and staff development, training and delivery.

Revised March 2017

Appendix 1

Y5/6 letter to parents

Dear Parents and Carers,

During next half term, we will be teaching our PSHCE theme on Sex and Relationship Education, some of it will be covered through our science topic Living Things and some separately. We would like to take this opportunity to explain our new SRE teaching programme in Year 5/6. As you will know schools have been working with a new curriculum implemented by the government since September 2014. There have been changes to the science curriculum and some of this interlinks with SRE. It does mean that Year 5s will be accessing information not previously taught till later.

We believe it is important to cover SRE sensitively and children should be introduced to the correct vocabulary for body parts and the changes that will occur. We have become

increasingly aware our children are beginning puberty earlier than 11 and there are visible signs of this within the current cohort. Puberty can begin at 9 and it is important children are prepared for these changes before they happen so they can understand them. Sex and Relationships education includes supporting young people in developing self-confidence and preparing for the physical and emotional changes into adulthood.

Firstly, we will be talking to the children about the emotional and physical changes that occur as girls and boys go through puberty. We will then explain how a baby develops in the womb during pregnancy and how babies are born. This last unit enables children to reflect on roles and relationships in the family. How a baby is made will currently still wait till Year 6.

The children will watch episodes of the Channel 4s '**All About Us**' series, in their class with their class teacher and teaching assistants. The episodes last approximately 15-20 minutes and the children will have the opportunity to discuss the videos afterwards. Some teaching sessions will be in gender groups to allow for more open discussion and for pupils to feel comfortable with the learning. If you have any questions regarding these topics or the DVD, please do not hesitate to come in and see us. It is your right to withdraw your child if you wish.

There will be an opportunity to view the teaching resources in school on *** (allow approximately an hour to view all the videos) before we begin viewing in class. Parents will be left to view the content without a staff member present as we have staff meeting and I've seen them all before! However, I will come at the end of the DVD to discuss any queries. If you do not withdraw permission on the form below or come to view the DVD I will assume permission is granted.

Kind regards,

Please return the consent form below to * by *****

(name).....

I give permission for _____

to view the Channel 4 Sex and Relationship Education DVD and attend the lessons.

Signed: (parent/carer

I would / would not like to view the DVD in advance. (please delete as applicable)