



# SEX EDUCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

September 2015

Review Date: September 2018

Review led by: J. Kirkham



## SEX EDUCATION

The 2010 Department for Education paper 'The Importance of Teaching' states: "Children need high quality sex and relationships education so they can make wise and informed choices."

Sex and relationships education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

It has three main elements:

### 1. Attitudes and Values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
- learning the value of family life, family based relationships/marriage, and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
- learning the value of respect, love and care;
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas;
- developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.

### 2. Personal and Social Skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
- developing self-respect and empathy for others;
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice;
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- managing conflict;
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

### 3. Knowledge and Understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships;
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national advice, where to obtain contraception and support services;
- learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits to be gained from such delay;
- the avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.



Sex Education is taught in school as part of an extensive PSHE programme and as part of the Science Curriculum programme.

**The main aims of our Sex and Relationships Education Programme are:**

- To enable all students to make rational, informed choices relating to a wide range of relationships they may encounter through life, and to provide coping strategies to deal with them.
- To create a climate which encourages children with anxieties relating to personal or social problems to feel confident in seeking appropriate advice from reliable sources.
- To establish the facts of sexual development and sexual relationships.
- To emphasise the role of the family and the place of love, respect and responsibility.

The above aims are approached in a non-judgmental, balanced and factual manner.

In addition, the influence of the parents and the home is acknowledged to be of particular importance.

Parents are welcome to see an outline of the programme and are asked to contact us if they wish to discuss any aspect of it.

**In accordance with the 1996 Education Act, parents may withdraw their children from all, or part of, sex and relationship lessons with the exception of those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum. The request for withdrawal from the lessons should be made in writing to the Headteacher, prior to a programme or event.**