



# Outwood Primary School

'Where every child is recognised as being unique'



## Sex & Relationships Education Policy 2017

### 1. Purpose

A key aim of the school is that each pupil will develop the skills and knowledge to make decisions. Decisions about how they relate to others can only be made if they have adequate knowledge and understanding of their own physical and emotional development. This is not a task for the school in isolation, and we seek to work with parents to ensure that the teaching of sex education reflects their expectations and complements teaching at home. Parents will be informed about the teaching of sex education so that they can decide whether or not to withdraw their child.

It is vital that students receive effective sex education before they become sexually active or put themselves or others at risk in other ways. It is also important to address prejudice and misinformation which may affect relationships with others both now and in the future.

### 2. Relationship to other policies

The SRE policy is linked closely to other school policies and should be read in conjunction with the Curriculum, Online Safety, Safeguarding and Child Protection policies. It is also linked to the Science scheme of work which deals with the biological aspects of human sexual behaviour. Issues such as over population, birth control and other sexual matters are met in a minor way in several subjects such as Geography and RE. However as any discussion is limited and set within the context of the other subject it does not constitute part of the SRE programme.

### 3. Responsibilities

The **governing body** will:

- seek the advice of the headteacher on this policy, keep it up to date and make it available to parents and carers.

The **headteacher** will ensure that:

- the governing body is advised about the nature and organisation of sex and relationships education and how it reflects the aims and values of the school
- sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life and the importance of safe, appropriate relationships
- pupils are protected from inappropriate teaching materials
- a scheme of work is agreed and implemented
- parents are informed about the programme for sex education

**Staff** who teach sex and relationships education are expected to:

- provide sex education in accordance with this policy and in a way which encourages pupils to consider morals and the value of family life
- participate in training to provide sex education in line with the school policy
- implement the agreed scheme of work



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- draw to the attention of the headteacher any materials which they consider to be inappropriate
- respond appropriately to those pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from sex education

#### **4. Collaboration with outside experts / other professionals**

At times it is appropriate to use external professionals who are experts in delivering the subject matter. Visitors such as nurses, family planning or sexual health workers and theatre groups can greatly enhance the delivery of the SRE programme.

Health professionals such as the school nurse are able to offer young people confidentiality and can provide a link between the school and support services.

#### **5. Equal Opportunities Issues and Special Needs**

The SRE programme must be appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils. As pupils mature and develop at different rates the key concepts are revisited at different times throughout the pupils' education. This allows for reinforcement as well as the differentiated stages of pupil maturity.

Children with SEN may need more help than others in coping with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up. They may also need more help in learning what sorts of behaviour are and are not acceptable.

Our SRE is inclusive and takes into account our pupils different ethnicity, faith, disability and culture.

#### **6. Withdrawing pupils from SRE**

This policy is made available to all parents and carers on the school website together with details about the parent/carers right to withdraw their child from many aspects of sex education. Parents / carers have the right to withdraw their children from non statutory National Curriculum lessons such as PSHE but not from statutory science lessons.

Parents/carers do not have to give reasons for withdrawal, but we respectfully invite them to do so as it can sometimes resolve misunderstandings. Once a parent/carers request to withdraw has been made, that request must be complied with until revoked by the parent.

**Policy Reviewed by: Mrs J Maude (PSHE Coordinator / Headteacher)**

**Date established by Governing body: November 2017**

**Date for full implementation: September 2017**

**Date for review: September 2018**