

HAZEL WOOD INFANT SCHOOL

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Sex education is included under the wider heading of personal, social and health education and is not taught as a separate subject. It will be related to the children's level of maturity and cognitive development.

AIM

To provide all children with the beginnings of the skills and attitudes to form loving and caring relationships, particularly within a family environment.

HOW

- Respect and care for each other (both adults and children).
- There should be an awareness of family patterns and the value of family life to the child. Care must be taken of situations which are known to be sensitive to certain children and their families.
- The need to care for our bodies is taught through appropriate year group topics.
- Use should be made of incidental opportunities to encourage the care of our own bodies and respect for others.
- Discussion about right/wrong will take place in collective worship and in the classrooms. These will contribute to a child's awareness of moral attitudes.
- As teachers, we must try to explore and understand our own partiality or bias before attempting to discuss any controversial issues with children. It is not our role to make moral declarations.
- Discussions about different emotions and strategies will be used to teach children how to manage those emotions.

- Teaching about different stages of the human life cycle as set out in the Science National Curriculum for Key Stage 1.

TEACHING MATERIALS

1. All teaching materials used are appropriate to the age of the children in our school.
2. Whilst teachers will answer children's questions honestly and openly, questions of a more sensitive nature, or questions directly relating to sex, sexuality and sexual health will be referred back to the child's parent.
3. We cannot offer confidentiality to a child if there is any suspicion of abuse: It will be referred to Child Protection.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

1. We recognise that parents are the key people in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up, and that they have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of sex and relationship education outside the science National Curriculum. If a parent is considering this they need to speak to the Headteacher.
2. We recognise that many parents need support in their role as sex educators and are able to offer support ourselves or recommend support from outside agencies.
3. Parents are kept fully informed of any changes that may be made to our sex and relationship education programme. A statement is included in our prospectus annually.