

St Matthew's C.E. Primary School



**Sex and Relationships
Policy**

Agreed by the Governing Body

Review date – Spring 2024



This must be read in conjunction with the RSHE policy.

Sex and Relationships Policy

What is SRE

The term sex and relationships education - SRE - is used in this policy rather than sex education. This is to stress that our approach goes beyond the provision of biological information to also focus on clarifying attitudes and values, and developing self-esteem and the skills to manage relationships.

Aim of our SRE policy

There are three main elements to our SRE programme.

- **Gaining knowledge and understanding**
 - Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
 - Understanding human sexuality, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- **Developing positive attitudes and values**
 - Learning the importance of values and individual consciences and moral considerations
 - Learning the value of family life and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children
 - Developing critical thinking as part of decision making
- **Extending personal and social skills**
 - Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
 - Developing self-respect and empathy and respect for others



Organisation of SRE

SRE is part of our National Curriculum Science programme. Other aspects are taught through PSHE and Citizenship and also some areas of relationships through lessons in English and RE.

Occasionally, where appropriate, experienced visitors may be invited.

Content

In Key Stage 1 pupils learn to recognize similarities and differences between themselves and others, identify and share their feelings with others, recognise safe and unsafe situations and identify and be able to talk to someone they trust.

In Key Stage 2 pupils learn to express their opinions about relationships and bullying and to listen and support others, including respecting other people's viewpoints and beliefs.

Life processes are also discussed including the physical changes that take place at puberty, why they happen and how to manage them.

The specific National Curriculum guidance for SRE learning outcomes in Key Stage 1 and 2 in Science and PSHE can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/national-curriculum/other-compulsory-subjects>

Specific issues within SRE

Ground Rules

Teachers and pupils will mutually agree ground rules to create a safe environment where all concerned do not feel embarrassed or anxious.

These may include

- No one pupil or teacher will have to answer a personal question
- No one will be forced to take part in a discussion
- Only the correct names for body parts will be used
- Meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way



Dealing with questions

Questions arising from SRE teaching will be answered in accordance with the ground rules established by the school. Questions which are deemed too explicit, too old or inappropriate for the whole class or raise questions of abuse should be dealt with at a later time by the teacher, having sought guidance from the PSHE manager if appropriate. If abuse is suspected the teacher should follow the schools child protection guidelines.

Parents

The school recognizes that parents are key in:

- Teaching their children about sex and relationships
- Maintaining the culture and ethos of the family
- Helping their children cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up; and
- Preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities that sexual maturity brings

However the school is also aware the parents may need support in:

- Helping their children learn the correct names of the body
- Talking to their children about feelings and relationships and
- Answering questions about growing up, having babies and relationships

Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw the children from all or part of the SRE provided by the school except those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum.

Dissemination of policy

This policy will be shared with the staff, including LSAs and office staff as well as with the Governors.

The policy will also be available to the parents.



Other relevant policies

PSHE

Drug Education

Confidentiality

Child Protection

RSHE