



Minerva Primary Academy

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Philosophy Statement

At Minerva Primary Academy we believe that it is part of the responsibility of the school to share with parents/carers the preparation of children for adult life. We believe that Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) has an essential part to play in equipping children for their future. It supports a lifelong learning process of acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about relationships and feelings, and sex and sexuality. (Sex Education Forum 1999).

Effective SRE can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being. We believe in equipping children with the knowledge of themselves and how they relate to others, and responding to their questions in an honest and factual way.

The SRE programme at Minerva Primary Academy reflects the school ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values:

- Respect for self;
- Respect for others;
- Responsibility for their own actions;
- Responsibility for their family, friends, schools and wider community;
- Recognising positive relationships.

We recognise that this can be a sensitive area and that all families have their own set of values and attitudes towards information covered in Sex and Relationships Education. We are therefore committed to working in partnership with parents and ensuring that parents are aware of the work the children are doing. Parents will be informed of the curriculum for SRE, and will be given the opportunity to attend an SRE meeting in order to ask questions and view resources.

Lesson Structure

Sex and Relationships Education is an integral part of the Citizenship, Personal, Social and Health Education (CPSHE) programme at Minerva Primary Academy. It also incorporates aspects of the Science curriculum. The programme builds continuously throughout Minerva Primary Academy. More detailed factual information about puberty and human reproduction will be given from Year 5.

SRE is normally delivered by class teachers in mixed gender groups other than when it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups.

Outline Programme

In the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, pupils learn to identify the main external body parts, including agreed names for sexual organs. They know that babies grow into children and then adults and they consider ways in which they have changed since they were born. They are encouraged to value themselves, their capabilities and uniqueness, and learn to recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others. They recognise and share their feelings with each other, recognise safe and unsafe situations and identify people they trust.

In Key Stage 2, pupils learn the physical differences between males and females. Life processes are discussed including the physical and emotional changes that take place at puberty, why they happen and how to manage them. They consider the place for love and trust within a relationship, and think about the responsibilities that parents have for babies. They learn to express and value their own and others' opinions about relationships. They learn to recognise their own worth and identify positive things about themselves.

In Year 6 children learn of sexual intercourse and the birth process. Parents have the opportunity to view all resources.

Parents have a right to request to the Head Teacher in writing that their child is withdrawn from SRE.

Resources

PSHE Jigsaw Scheme of learning

A range of age-appropriate resources are available to support our PSHE Jigsaw programme. These will be stored centrally.

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