



SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Version	3
Date of latest version	January 2022
Date to be reviewed	January 2024
Changes:	
None	

Rationale

The Governors of Ropley School believe that appropriate sex education is an important element in the delivery of PSHE. They believe that the prime responsibility for bringing up children rests with parents and that sex education teaching offered by the school should be complementary and supportive to the role of parents.

Our school's policy on sex and relationship education is based on the DfES document *Sex and Relationship Education Guidance* (DfES 0116/2000) and guidance from the Department for Education Website (latest update October 2014). We recognise Sex and Relationship Education as the policy's full title, but for brevity's sake we will refer in the rest of this policy simply to 'sex education'.

Aims

The Governors believe that while sex education should cover biological facts and information it should primarily lead to the acquisition of understanding and attitudes which will prepare children to view their relationship in a responsible and healthy manner. It should encourage children to have due regard to moral consideration and the value of family life.

The aims should be to:

- Promote respect for themselves and others
- Promote responsible behaviour
- Appreciate the values of family life and the responsibilities of parenthood
- Encourage openness and better communications about sexual matters
- Combat ignorance and increase understanding in order to reduce guilt and anxiety
- Develop skills in making informed decisions and combating exploitation or peer pressure
- Raise awareness of influences such as the media
- Inform about the implications and risks associated with some behaviours.

Implementation

Sex education in its widest sense takes place from the moment a child is born so our school policy starts from the very first day a child arrives at Ropley School. At all stages, but especially so at the

Infant stage, much of the sex education will be of an incidental nature, arising from topics being followed and also from experiences discussed with and by the teacher.

In the Junior classes this incidental teaching will, of course, continue but also a specific sex education teaching programme will be followed. A detailed programme of study and guidelines for the delivery of the programme is attached to this policy statement and forms part of the Sex Education Policy for Ropley School.

Staff Development

All staff understand and support the rationale and aims of the sex education policy. All current staff feel confident about implementing the detailed programme of study. New staff will have the policy and programme of study explained and discussed by the teacher responsible for PSHE. Any necessary training will then be organised. Any changes to the programme of study or implementation of sex education need to be discussed with the Headteacher and Governors. The curriculum committee are responsible for monitoring the resources used on an annual basis in line with reviewing this policy.

Parents

Parents will be consulted annually on the suitability of materials and resources used in the sex education programme. A letter will be sent home to parents one calendar month prior to starting the year 6 sex education programme together with a copy of the medium term planning and a synopsis of the videos used. The videos and resources used in the School will be made available to parents should they wish to borrow them to view at home.

Every parent has the legal right to withdraw his/her child from those parts of the sex education policy which are outside the National Curriculum for Science.

Although parents do not have to give a reason for withdrawing a child from all, or part, of the sex education programme, it is hoped that any parent wishing to do so will discuss the situation with the class teacher so that problems can be resolved. Any child who is withdrawn will be placed in a supervised teaching group elsewhere in the school.