

SOUTH HAMS FEDERATION

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

Approved 16.01.17

Review: January 2020

Background Information

The schools in the South Hams Federation are for girls and boys aged 4 – 11 years and have a combined total of approximately 560 pupils on roll who come from both single and dual parent families. In each cohort across the schools there may be a few children identified with learning difficulties and disabilities. There is a wide social mix and very varied family backgrounds in all the schools. The school catchment areas are extensive and serve large rural areas, isolated coastal hamlets and a small town in one of the schools. A large proportion of children travel in from local outlying villages. All the schools have active Parent, Teacher and Friend Associations (PTFA), which are mostly involved in fund-raising and supporting the teachers.

Policy Information & Consultation Process

The Executive Headteacher has overall responsibility for the sex and relationships education policy. In formulating this policy the following issues were considered:

- aims of the sex and relationships education programme
- moral and values framework
- content of the programme
- delivery of the programme
- teaching approaches
- use of visitors
- child protection
- withdrawal of pupils
- monitoring and review of the programme

Legal Requirements

Sex and relationships education will contribute to the requirements of section 1 of the 1988 Education Reform Act and the school curriculum should be one which:

- 'promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the schools and of society; and
- prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life'

Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parents, from part of the sex and relationships education programme that is outside the compulsory elements of sex and relationships education in the National Science Curriculum.

Under the 2004 Children's Act schools are required to respond to the Every Child Matters Agenda.

Sex and Relationships Education makes particular reference to the following objectives:

- Children and Young People are physically healthy
- Children and Young People are mentally and emotionally healthy
- Children and Young People are sexually healthy
- Children and Young People live healthy lifestyles
- Children and Young People are safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation
- Children and Young People develop positive relationships and choose not to bully or discriminate

SOUTH HAMS FEDERATION

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

Approved 16.01.17

Review: January 2020

- Children and Young People develop self-confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges
- Children and Young People engage in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school

Aims of Sex and Relationships Education

The schools in the South Hams Federation believe that sex and relationship education in the schools will be developmental and a foundation for further development in the secondary school.

The school will work towards these aims in partnership with the parents. The aim of the sex and relationships education policy is to clarify the content and manner in which sex and relationships education will be delivered in this school.

Other federation policies which have relevance to sex and relationships education are:

- Anti-bullying
- Drugs Education and Incident Management
- Education of Looked After Children
- Equality
- PSHE
- RE
- Safeguarding
- School Partnership
- SEND
- Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural

Moral and Values Framework

The sex and relationships education programme will reflect the schools over-arching aims and demonstrate and encourage the following values:

- respect for self
- respect for others
- responsibility for their own actions
- responsibility for their family, friends, school and wider community

Equal Opportunities

The schools in the South Hams Federation are committed to working towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life. All resources used will support this commitment.

Content

The sex and relationships education programme will:

- provide information that is relevant and appropriate to the age and developmental stage of the pupils
- develop skills of assertiveness, communication and effective dialogue in relationships
- encourage the exploration and clarification of values and attitudes
- foster self-esteem, positive self-image and confidence

SOUTH HAMS FEDERATION SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

Approved 16.01.17

Review: January 2020

Topics and themes will be revisited from year to year taking account of the pupils' development and the spiral curriculum concept.

The content of the sex and relationships education programme including learning outcomes will be based on the recommended LA sex and relationships education curriculum programme using 'Health for Life' as a framework and the HEADON SRE resources.

Topics will include:

- feelings and relationships
- my healthy body
- lifestyles and culture
- growing up

ORGANISATION

Sex and relationships education will be co-ordinated by the Executive Headteacher and Heads of School in close co-operation with the PSHE Co-ordinator.

Delivery will be:

- as topics
- through planned aspects of science
- addressed occasionally in assembly time
- through planned visits from parents and younger and older siblings
- through pastoral time
- through small group work
- through SEAL activities
- through story time
- through PSHE lessons

Active learning methods which involve pupils' full participation will be used. Single sex groups will be used as and when deemed appropriate. Parents can view resources by contacting individual Heads of School directly. The schools in the South Hams Federation are committed to working towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life. All resources and teaching methods used will support this commitment.

At present all members of staff are committed to delivering the sex and relationships education programme, where necessary, staff are supported by an in-service training programme. Liaison procedures which facilitate the spiral curriculum development are already in place. Sex and relationships education are included in our Curriculum Map.

SPECIFIC ISSUES STATEMENTS

Working with parents and pupil withdrawal procedures

The schools in the South Hams Federation are committed to working with parents. Under the 1993 Education Act pupils can be withdrawn by their parents, from part of the sex and relationships education programme that is outside the compulsory elements of sex and relationships education in the National Science Curriculum. Parents wishing to exercise this

SOUTH HAMS FEDERATION

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

Approved 16.01.17

Review: January 2020

right are invited to contact the Heads of School who will explore the concerns and the possibilities of adjusting the programme or approach. They will discuss the possible impact that withdrawal may have on the pupil and they will talk with the parents about the pupil's possible negative experiences or feelings that may result from exclusions and ways in which these can be minimised. Once a pupil has been withdrawn they cannot participate in sex and relationships education until the request of withdrawal has been removed.

Confidentiality

Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential and that their best interests will be maintained.

Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse

The schools in the South Hams Federation have a Safeguarding policy and procedure for dealing with child sexual abuse based on the LA guidelines and recommendations. This policy is available on request.

Teaching and Outside Agencies

At the schools in the South Hams Federation, SRE lessons will be taught by class teachers and the Heads of Schools. Outside agencies will be used to support and assist the teachers in the development of the classroom based work. On rare occasions outside agencies may be involved in classroom based work as part of the developmental programme following discussions and negotiation. They will be required to work within the schools moral framework outlined earlier. Lessons will only have a teaching input from anyone other than the class teacher when there a clear enhancement that they can bring. In this instance these sessions will be jointly planned and run jointly between teaching staff and visitors, and the class teacher will be present at all times. The schools procedures for working with external agencies and teaching and learning policy will be followed, including Disclosure and Baring Scheme checks.

Answering difficult questions

Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit or difficult question in the classroom. Teachers have been informed that they do not have to answer questions of this nature directly; they can be addressed individually later. The governors support individual teachers in using their discretion and skill in these situations and can refer to the Heads of School or Executive Headteacher if they are concerned.

Provision for pubertal pupils

Sanitary Disposal Units are located in the upper junior girls and female staff toilet at Stokenham and in the staff toilets at Loddiswell and Malborough and in the downstairs staff toilet, KS2 girls' toilet and kitchen toilet at Modbury. Girls requiring sanitary protection should go to each school's office.

HIV/AIDS Policy

The school follows the procedure outlined by the County Council with regard for supporting pupils or staff infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

Complaints Procedures

Any complaints about the Sex and Relationships Education Programme for each school should be made to the Executive Headteacher who will report to the governors.

SOUTH HAMS FEDERATION SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

Approved 16.01.17

Review: January 2020

Dissemination of the Policy

All staff members and governors will receive a copy of this policy. Several copies are available for loan from the school offices on request.

Assessment and Recording

Teachers assess the children's work in Sex and Relationships Education both by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons and by doing formal assessments of their work, measured against the specific learning objectives set out in the National Curriculum. We have clear expectations of what the pupils will know, understand and be able to do at the end of each key stage.

Monitoring and Review

A nominated governor will have a link role between the school and the governing body. The Heads of School and PSHE coordinator is responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching.

The co-ordinator supports colleagues in the teaching of Sex and Relationships Education, by giving them information about current developments in the subject and by providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the schools. The PSHE co-ordinator is also responsible for giving the Executive Headteacher an annual summary report, evaluating strengths and areas for development in the subject.

We allocate special time for our PSHE co-ordinator to enable him/her to fulfil this role by reviewing samples of children's work and visiting classes to observe the quality of teaching and learning in the subject. The PSHE co-ordinator may arrange visits to the schools from any relevant representative from a partner organisation who is involved in supporting the PSHE provision.