

# Westhead Lathom St. James C.E. Primary School



## Sex & Relationships Education Policy

“Christian values are implicit in all that we do”

**Last Reviewed Date: Spring 2016**

**Next Review Date: Spring 2019**

Version	Date	<u>Author/Editor</u>	Revision Notes
1	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2006	Alison Albion	Original Policy documents copied into new format, with header, footer and version control. Policy reviewed and updated to ensure reflects current policy and practice
2	March 2009	Alison Albion	Policy reviewed and updated to ensure reflects current policy and practice
3	Autumn 2012	Alison Albion	Policy reviewed and updated to ensure reflects current policy and practice
4	Spring 2016	Alison Albion	Policy reviewed and updated to ensure reflects current policy and practice

Signed..... Chair of Governors

Date.....



### **Mission Statement: Our School Now**

Our school provides a secure, caring, stimulating and challenging indoor and outdoor environment that promotes a love of learning. Our children, parents, families, staff, governors and community work together to enable each child to become a happy, healthy, well-balanced individual in preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The ethos of the school is based on the Christian ideals of commitment, responsibility and respect and love for Jesus Christ, self and others. We are committed to working in partnership with all of those involved in our children's development to lead our children towards tolerance, understanding, justice, and sensitivity to the needs of others and appreciation of the world around them.

**Our motto** "Enjoy, Respect, Learn, Achieve"

### **Vision Statement: Our Vision for the Future**

- To provide role models who: go the extra mile; give of themselves and their time to meet the needs of the whole child; promote spirituality and an appreciation of the wonders of the natural world; promote a love of learning; develop Christian ideals of commitment, responsibility, respect, team-work, tolerance, understanding, justice, sensitivity of self and others and love for Jesus Christ, within a secure, caring, inspiring, stimulating and challenging environment both indoors and outside.
- For children, parents, families, staff, governors and community to work together in partnership to enable each child to become a happy, healthy, well-balanced individuals with self-confidence and belief that builds character to enable them to engage thoroughly, fulfilling each individual's potential through life's experiences, opportunities and responsibilities in a rapidly changing world.

### **Aims**

Westhead Lathom St. James Church of England Primary School aims to :-

- Provide a broad and challenging curriculum and a stimulating learning environment that extends outside the classroom;
- Develop enquiring minds and spirituality through curiosity, awe and wonder of the world;
- Teach, demonstrate and praise Christian Values;
- Value the power of prayer;
- Teach with innovative and investigative approaches to learning;
- Provide an enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and visits;
- Plan a rich, varied and up-to-date range of learning resources;
- Encourage children to achieve their highest standards in all areas of the curriculum and to seek excellence within an ethos of support, challenge and encouragement to succeed;
- Teach children to work independently, collaboratively and become highly motivated lifelong learners;
- Include opportunities for creative thinking in problem solving settings, developing divergent thinking, adaptability and flexibility in preparation for the many changes ahead in life, including the rapid progress in technology;
- Build partnerships between the school, home and community;
- Strive for continuous improvement in all that we do;
- Continually self-evaluate and continue to improve upon current practice;
- Work collaboratively towards common goals;
- Place self-esteem and a positive and inclusive approach to behaviour as high priorities thus ensuring that individuals respect and value themselves, others and the environment and is motivated to do their best in school and beyond in order to become a fulfilled adult who gives to the community.

## **Introduction**

Section (18) (2) of the Education (No. 2) Act 1986 requires the Governing Body to determine and publish the policy for sex education within the school. It is the policy of the school that sex education should form part of an integrated programme of personal health and social education throughout the school.

Throughout KS1 children learn that animals have 'like' babies and plants produce seeds. Later in Ks2 they progress to learning about life cycles of plants and animals and minibeasts. At Y6 they learn about reproduction in humans.

The content of the sex education element of the programme is taught within the context of PSHE, due consideration being given to the positive values of family life and sound moral values. The role of the parents is recognised as crucial in the understanding of this area and we aim to establish a working partnership in order to support the child's learning. Parents are informed of their child's curricular theme for the term in advance via a newsletter. Parents of year 5 children are invited to see lessons notes and video footage shown by the school nurse. A consent form must be received from parents before their child is allowed to take part in these lessons.

## **Aims**

When the children leave the school they will:

- Have an understanding of the nature of inter-personal relationships.
- Have knowledge of how to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- Have an understanding of the human reproductive cycle.
- Be aware of the changes in their bodies.
- Be sympathetically aware of the needs of others.
- Have due regard for moral consideration and positive family morals.

## **Why is Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) Important?**

Children learn about sex and relationships from a very young age. Some of the things they learn are incorrect and confusing. It is therefore important to teach all children the correct facts about sex and relationships in order to build their confidence and understanding of a variety of issues.

## **What is Sex and Relationships Education?**

## Westhead Lathom St. James C.E. Primary School Sex & Relationships Education Policy

Sex and Relationships education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about children understanding the importance of marriage and all other relationships with family and friends. In year 6 this also includes the teaching of Sex and Sexual Health.

### **Aims of Sex and Relationships Education**

At Lathom St. James School we aim to:

- Provide a consistent and holistic programme of Sex Education which is relevant to the age of the child.
- Respect the diversity of "family life"
- Protect our pupils against exploitation and to understand they have rights over their own bodies.
- Reassure children that physical and emotional changes are normal
- Recognise the value of Equal Opportunities
- Provide guidance on sexual matters
- Have an understanding of the nature of inter-personal relationships
- Have a knowledge of how pupils can keep themselves safe and healthy
- Give pupils an understanding of the human reproductive system

### **Where and How it will be taught**

Sex and Relationship teaching will be delivered via two areas of the curriculum.

#### **1. Through National Curriculum Science where they are required to learn :**

##### Key Stage 1

- That animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
- To recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans
- That humans and animals can produce offspring and these grow into adults.
- To recognise the similarities between themselves and others and treat others with sensitivity

##### Key Stage 2

- That the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction
- The main stages of the human life cycle
- 2. Each Year group will encounter other learning objectives for Sex and Relationships education through their PSHE Schemes of work and cross-curricular links.**
- The sex education curriculum is supported by age related units produced by Folens as part of our P.S.H.E. and citizenship programme. It is only in year 6 that human reproduction is covered and then it is mainly relating to issues linked to conception. This talk is delivered by the school nurse and in her absence, Mrs Albion, Headteacher.
- As with other PSHE units Sex Education will develop in response to key questions.
- Sex education at the school will be developmental and age appropriate
- Pupils will be taught about the nature of the human body and how it grows and changes
- Sex education will be taught within the context of relationships and family life.
- Discussion will be encouraged at all times
- Ground rules for discussion excluding personal questioning of staff or pupils will be established
- We shall attempt to deal with questions in a sensitive, open, frank and matter of fact way.
- Difficult or explicit questions do not have to be answered directly. Teachers will use their own discretion in these situations.
- Most groups will be mixed age and gender but if felt more appropriate, single sex or age groups may be formed.
- We recognise that alongside the more formal elements of teaching there should be flexibility to address individual concerns related to the child's stage of development as and when they arise. The broad programme will, as appropriate, involve input from the school nurses and local Health Authority.

### **Sex & Relationships Education in Year 5**

We supplement the programme with a video 'all about me' and accompanying leaflets provided by West Lancs. Health Service. This has been adopted by many local primary schools. Parents are told of the timing of these additional talks and are invited to view the video and discuss specifics to be covered beforehand. With parental permission, the year 5 children watch the first two sections of the video - girls and boys together. These first two sections 'puberty'

Westhead Lathom St. James C.E. Primary School Sex & Relationships Education Policy and 'inside the body' cover topics of body growth spurts, body changes and sex organs of boys and girls using diagrams, followed by boys erections, semen, sperm, wet dreams and the menstrual cycle. It is delivered in a dry, factual manner through drawings. The children are made aware that the female egg needs to be fertilised by a male sperm. It is explained how the sperm are ejaculated, but not graphically shown how they enter the female body. Afterwards, pupils have the opportunity to discuss what they have seen in separate gender groups.

The final two sections viewed by all of year 5 are entitled 'The way you feel' and 'Looking and feeling good'. These sections cover issues relating to emotional changes, arguments at home, learning to be independent, future shyness and the benefits of good health and exercise in helping the body to develop and release tensions. Food groups are covered, promoting a healthy balanced diet.

Same sex relationships, are mentioned purposefully but briefly; aiming to put over the view that everyone is different, everyone is unique and that some people may not fit the stereo type of a heterosexual relationship and therefore may love someone of their same sex as their long term partner. The issues of bigotry related to this are discussed, and at a child's level, the reasons for not using derogatory vocabulary linked to such situations e.g gay. Finally, bodily cleanliness is covered. Perspiration, the worst affected areas and the importance of daily washing of underarms and changing of clothes is explained. Spots are briefly explained, again with the benefits of daily washing promoted.

Sexually transmitted infections and the physical explanation of conception are not covered.

### **Sex and Relationships Education and Inclusion**

At Lathom St. James School, we will ensure that all children and young people have equal access to a high standard of Sex and Relationships Education. The approach needs to be matched to the age and maturity of the pupils, for example, pupils with diverse learning needs may require additional support. We are aware that pupil's sexual awareness and their attitudes towards sex and relationships may vary between localities and communities. We will always be sensitive to the range of attitudes that exist towards sex and relationships.

### **Parental Involvement**

The role of the parents is recognised as crucial in the understanding of Sex and Relationships Education and we aim to establish a working partnership in order to support the child's learning. We encourage parental input and consultation with regard to any elements of the programme. Any parent does have the right to remove their child from Sex and Relationships Education. We would strongly recommend that they discuss this with the Headteacher and / or the class teacher prior to making a decision.

### **Assessment, Reporting and Recording**

Westhead Lathom St. James C.E. Primary School Sex & Relationships Education Policy  
Note will be taken of individual responses to Sex & Relationships Education units of study and included in assessment of progress in personal and social development.

### **Child Protection**

All staff have an awareness of child protection procedures.

### **Staff Support and Development**

It is appreciated that some staff may feel less comfortable with this area of the curriculum. All staff will be supported with appropriate training and support and if preferred, alternative staff or visiting professionals may be asked to deliver the curriculum.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The subject leader will monitor coverage and the effectiveness of this policy within the framework of the school monitoring timetable.

This policy will be reviewed every three years.