



ASTON AND COTE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

This policy should be taken and used as part of Aston and Cote's overall strategy, and implemented within the context of our vision and values of a Church of England School. Aston and Cote is a Church of England School which celebrates a love of God and puts the Christian ethos at the centre of all that it does.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

Sept 2015

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

The Education Reform Act (Section 1) states that schools should provide a curriculum that *"promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils.... and of society; and prepare such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. "*

Sex and Relationships Education is an important dimension of a child's statutory entitlement.

Rationale

Sex and Relationships Education is an umbrella term for all the teaching and learning we offer pupils to understand their own and others' sexuality, to develop skills for relationships and informed decision making. At Aston and Cote School we believe that sex and relationships education is the entitlement of each child and we are committed to deliver it within the context of a broad and balanced programme of health education.

Aims

In our school we aim through implicit and explicit learning experiences to:

- Ensure that sex and relationships education is integrated into the curriculum and not isolated, taken out of context or over-emphasised in any way
- Foster self-esteem and respect for others as the cornerstone of good health education and good sex and relationships education
- Nurture a partnership between caring adults - governors, teachers, ancillary staff and parents - to ensure sensitive support for children and young people as they grow and mature
- Ensure children have the ability to accept their own and others' sexuality
- Encourage children to enjoy relationships based upon mutual trust and respect, free from any abuse
- Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on sexual matters can take place without embarrassment
- Adopt a whole school approach to sex and relationships education

Teaching and Learning

Effective teaching of sex and relationships education will increase pupils' knowledge of:

- Their bodies;
- Human growth and development;
- Families, parenting and life cycles;
- Safety and child protection;
- Helping agencies;
- Sexual identity.

It will also enable pupils to:

- Improve their self-esteem;
- Make informed choices and decisions;

- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility;
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others;
- Maintain and develop relationships;
- Develop self-confidence;
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations;
- Develop the motivation to succeed.

We use a variety of resources (with ideas for suggested use), including video material, worksheets. However, we emphasise the importance of discussion and questioning within the safe, secure and non-judgmental atmosphere of the class with its teacher. The atmosphere of trust, mutual acceptance and confidentiality is built on the PSHCE programme.

Within the taught and hidden curriculum, i.e. the whole school environment, pupils should be given frequent and regular opportunities to work on feelings and to practice personal and interpersonal skills. We value and respect the learning that occurs in the community and in the home believing that these, alongside school links, are essential dimensions of sex and relations education. It is important to involve, whenever possible, and certainly to inform parents, about the sex and relationships education programme within the curriculum. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from receiving sex education from a PSHCE perspective at school, but not to withdraw them from the teaching of the science national curriculum:

Animals, including humans:

Pupils should be taught to:

- **Describe the changes as humans develop to old age**

Further Information

For further Guidance see Oxfordshire's Curriculum Matters 9.

For information on child protection and confidentiality see OCC guidance.

Signed on behalf of the school.....

Signed on behalf of the governors.....