

**St Giles CE Primary
Sex Education Policy
March 2014**

Aims of the policy

- For pupils to begin to develop knowledge and understanding about growth and development and human reproduction.
- To support the Christian ethos of the school including the exploration of values, ideals, attitudes and personal relationships within the context of a Christian marriage and loving and stable relationship.
- To begin to prepare the children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

Sex education involves more than telling children about the human life cycle. It is about feelings, emotions and relationships. Our sex education programme will cover the following broad areas, although there will be a flexible approach and staff will use their discretion as to how and when a subject should be introduced. In the early years the issues will be dealt with at a superficial level but then tackled in greater depth as the children become more mature. The teaching of sex education needs to be delivered sensitively so as not to stigmatise children on the basis of their home circumstances.

The content of our sex education programme

The sex education programme will be taught within the context of normal relationships and will:

- Provide information which is easy to understand, and relevant and appropriate to the age and maturity of the children involved.
- Include the development of social and communication skills.
- Encourage the exploration and clarification of values, attitudes and respect for the individual.
- Pupils should be taught about the nature and importance of love and marriage.

Organisation of the teaching of sex education

- Reproduction will be taught to Year 5 in a concentrated programme (this usually takes place in the summer term).
- Boys and girls will be taught together by a class teacher or other nominated teacher.
- An approved sex education video will be used.
- In other year groups elements of sex education will be taught through planned elements of science and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education).

- Feelings, emotions and relationships will also be explored through class based circle time and our programme of assemblies and worship.
- There will be occasions when questions arise naturally in the classroom.

Most books relating to providing general information about “our bodies” will be kept in the library and treated as part of our reference material. Some books may be held centrally, as teacher resource material, if appropriate.

At present all members of staff are committed to delivering this programme. However, if a member of staff feels unable to take on some of the more specific aspects of the programme, arrangements will be made for another teacher or the headteacher to do so.

Specific issues

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education provided at St Giles except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum (for example science and PSHE).

If a parent chooses to withdraw their child from the sex and relationship education, alternative arrangements will be made (they may join another class during these lessons).

The school will use approved videos produced . Parents will be informed in advanced when the pupils will watch the video and when the sex and relationships education will take place.

Parents will be invited into school to watch the video beforehand and to discuss any issues with the teacher.

Child sexual abuse

The school follows the LEA guidelines and procedures in cases of suspected child abuse. The school policy is available in school and can be viewed on request.

Answering “difficult” questions

Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit question in the classroom. The teacher involved will use his / her professional judgement and discretion as to whether it is appropriate to answer in an open forum or whether to talk to the child concerned in private. Teachers are not allowed to answer questions about homosexuality in a way that could be seen as promoting it. Parents will be contacted if the nature of the question asked by a child causes concern.

Monitoring and evaluation of the policy

The sex education programme will be evaluated and monitored on an annual basis by the headteacher and Year 5 teacher.

This policy will work alongside the school Child Protection policy to ensure the safeguarding of pupils.

A copy of this policy will be given to parents who attend the information meeting.

This policy was reviewed by the Governors in March 2014