**North Stainley CofE Primary School SRE Policy**

**Our Vision**

Through a positive caring environment, we aim to provide the opportunity for every child to reach their full potential, lead through our 6 Core Christian Values: Friendship, Respect, Resilience, Empathy, Independence and Aspiration. Our school vision of being rooted and grounded in love comes from St Paul’s letter to the Ephesians. St Paul says. “so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith —o that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may know the love of Christ that surpasses all knowledge, and that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3: 17-19)

The school’s policy for sex and relationships education (SRE) is based on guidance from the DfE (Sex and relationships – OFSTED 2002) and has been drawn up following consultations.

**Our Definition and Aims**

At North Stainley CofE Primary School, SRE is defined as lifelong learning that helps to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development, and understanding about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, gender, sex, sexuality and sexual health. RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity. We believe this in turn allows the pupils to have all the skills to lead confident, healthy, independent lives in order to become informed, active and responsible citizens of the community. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care, for family life.  It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

At North Stainley CofE Primary, we aim to:

* Develop confident and effective communicators who value themselves and others.
* Encourage enquiring minds.
* Meet the needs of all pupils enabling them to reach their full potential
* Provide children with an education appropriate to the world beyond the classroom
* Help children to live together within the community, displaying tolerance and sensitivity
* Develop in children a sense of moral responsibility and self-discipline
* Develop in children spiritual awareness.

Aims of the SRE Policy:

* To meet the requirements of the DfES guidance on SRE.
* Promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils.
* To develop in children the skills and understanding to have the confidence to approach their relationships in a positive way.
* To encourage pupils and teachers to share and respect each other’s views. We aim to generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on personal matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment.
* To enable children to move with confidence from childhood through adolescence to adulthood.
* To live confident and healthy lives
* To understand the changes that occur to the human body during puberty and ultimately prepare pupils for puberty and give them the understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene.
* To understand how a baby is conceived and born.
* To ensure children are aware of personal space and their right to privacy
* To communicate effectively by developing appropriate terminology for sex and relationship issues.
* Recognize that parents/carers are the key people in teaching their children about relationships, growing up and sex. We aim to work in partnership with parents/carers and pupils, ensuring they are aware of the statutory expectation from the RSE curriculum (DfE 2020).

**SRE in the Curriculum**

The Head teacher is responsible for the effective delivery of the SRE curriculum, alongside the PSHE and STRE Lead Laura-Mae Gregory.

Through the National Curriculum and PSHE Association Scheme used at North Stainley, we cover the statutory expectations set by the DFE for the Relationship Education Curriculum. However, the non-statutory element in primary school for sex education is focused on in Year 6, taught by the class teacher and head teacher.

**Early Years** - We are all different.  (Considers differences between girls and boys including sexual organs.)

**Yr 1** - Exploring friendship and trust.  (The concepts of friendship and trust.)

**Yr 2** - Keeping clean.  (Personal hygiene.)

**Yr 3** -Your feelings your choice.  (Looks at personal safety and decision making.)

**Yr 4** - Keeping safe.  (Deals with peer pressure.)

**Yr 5** - Growing and changing.  (Physical and emotional changes as puberty begins.)

**Yr 6** - Growing and changing.  (Changing & different kinds of relationships, pregnancy and contraception.)

In each Year Group (Rec-Y6) the children discuss key safeguarding issues linked to personal space and privacy. The school ensures that the children’s awareness of these issues is taught in an age appropriate manner. The teachers sensitively ensure children are aware and understand of the boundaries that should exist linked to the private areas of their body.

In Years R – 4 children learn about:

* Developing the skills to have positive relationships with friends and family
* An understanding that families/relationships set-ups.
* Exercise and personal hygiene

In Year 5 and 6 children learn about:

* Developing the skills to be effective in relationships
* The different types of relationship, including marriage and those between friends and families. Children are made aware that different family set-ups exist (including homosexual relationships)
* How the body changes during puberty
* How a baby is conceived and born.
* Messages of sexuality developed in the media

At North Stainley CofE Primary School, SRE is taught through the PSHE curriculum. The curriculum is delivered across the school year, with discrete learning time weekly. The programme is a graduated, age appropriate programme, which will be delivered by the school staff with support and advice from health professionals.

Both boys and Girls receive the same input and understand the changes that occur in their own gender as well as that of the opposite sex, as we feel it is important that the children understand their own bodies and that of the opposite sex.

We have committed to a retain parents’ right to withdraw their child from sex education within RSE (other than sex education in the National Curriculum as part of science). There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at primary or secondary as we believe the contents of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught.

If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from the sex education elements of RSE, they should discuss this with the Headteacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in.

Teaching staff receive suitable training, when available, to ensure they are able to deliver sex and relationships lessons effectively.

Questions raised by pupils are dealt with sensitively and any questions concerning sexually transmitted diseases and contraception are answered appropriately if raised. Inappropriate or explicit questions do not have to be answered directly. Teachers use their own discretion in these situations.

Homosexuality is discussed at a level appropriate to the age of the children. Children are reminded that ‘loving relationships’ can be between a man and a woman or people of the same sex. Teachers again use their own discretion in these situations when responding to children’s questioning. Children are taught to respect the life choices of others (including their sexuality). Homophobic bullying is discussed at a level appropriate the age of the children.

The portrayal of sex in the media is discussed at length in Y6. In particular the portrayal of and over sexualisation of women is discussed and the impact this can have on the development young girls as they grow up.

At Year 6 teachers may, where appropriate, split the group according to gender to discuss issues relating to puberty and sex; however this is not always the case.

**Assessment, Reporting and Recording**

Class teachers assess progress and understanding in sex and relationships education through pupil discussions and responses in their written work. Brief records of pupils’ understanding and progress may be kept by teachers to form part of the records of overall progress in PSHE.

**Equal Opportunities**

All pupils have access to the SRE curriculum. Where pupils have specific educational needs, arrangements for support from outside agencies and support staff are made to ensure these pupils have an appropriate, differentiated curriculum.

**Child Protection**

All teaching staff are trained in child protection issues. Any concerns raised through SRE are dealt with according to the schools safeguarding and child protection procedures.
Safeguarding lead: Mrs Louise Wallen.

**Working with Parents**

The school aims to work in partnership with parents when planning and delivering sex and relationship education. This is achieved through:

* advising parents on how they can answer questions about SRE with their children at home.
* Inform parents about the best practice known with regard to RSE, so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home.
* supporting parents in helping children cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up
* making alternative arrangements for pupils who are withdrawn from SRE lessons and providing DfES materials for parents who choose to withdraw their children.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

The monitoring of Sex and Relationships education is carried out by the Head teacher alongside the PSHE lead, and then presented to the Governors by the Head teacher.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.