

Thornbury Primary School
Relationships & Sex Education Policy
2015 – 2018

Introduction

The following staff are responsible for the Sex and Relationship Education Policy:

Claire Hardisty - Headteacher
PSHE Co-ordinator
Parent Governor

Description of School

Thornbury Primary School is an averaged sized primary school, situated 2 miles from Plymouth city centre. It has a roll of over 300 children aged from 4 - 11. Children come from a variety of family units. The majority of families have at least one working parent. The School has good community ties. There is close proximity to a busy regional hospital resulting in a regular short to medium term stays for children of medical families. The numbers on the ethnic minority roll is small and growing, and the religion of pupils is predominantly Christian. There is an average percentage of children on the Special Needs register. In addition, the School has a Speech and Language centre with provision for 10 children, all of whom have Statements of Special Educational Needs (now EHC Plan), much higher than the national average.

In February 2015 Ofsted graded Behaviour and Safety as Outstanding.

Principles

Personal, Social, Health Education and Citizenship Education helps to give children the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to become confident, healthy, well informed, independent and active individuals in a community. Children are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum. They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral and social and cultural issues that are a part of growing up.

For all pupils there is a need for clear, explicit and repeated teaching about relationships and sex to avoid confusion and address misconceptions. They need the knowledge, skills and understanding to make informed, positive decisions about their own relationships and lives and about their own safety.

A comprehensive programme of Relationship and Sex Education provides accurate information about the body, reproduction and sex. It also gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful relationships and staying safe both on and off line.

The policy takes account of the School's legal obligations and the Dfes guidance. It has also been written in line with the outcomes of the Every Child Matters agenda with its five key outcomes of:

- Be healthy
- Staying safe
- Enjoying and achieving
- Making a positive contribution
- Achieving economic well-being

Moral and Values Framework

All children and staff are encouraged to promote the values which will include respect for oneself, respect for others, responsibility for one's own actions and responsibility to family, friends, school and the wider community.

Cross Curricular Objectives

Process

The PSHE Coordinator, Headteacher and Governors, together with advice from the lead subject consultant will review and remodel the Relationships and Sex Education policy.

The following issues are considered:

1. Aims of the Relationship and Sex Education programme
2. The content of the programme
3. The delivery of the programme
4. Teaching and learning styles
5. Child protection
6. The withdrawal of children
7. The monitoring and review of the programme

Aims and Objectives

The Relationship and Sex Education programme will be developmental and relate to the needs and age of the children in the School. Although the biological aspects of physical development will be addressed and taught in a number of ways, emphasis will focus on the concept of building positive relationships and a safe and secure school environment which reflects the School's supportive school ethos. Clarification of attitudes and values, developing self esteem and developing the skills to manage relationships will be paramount in teaching.

Other School policies which have relevance to the Relationship and Sex Education programme include:

1. Equal Opportunities
2. Anti-bullying

3. Child protection and Safeguarding
4. Confidentiality
5. Behaviour
6. Special Educational Needs
7. Teaching and Learning
8. Drugs education
9. Healthy eating
10. Health and Safety
11. Science
12. Child on-line safety

Equal Opportunities

Thornbury Primary School is committed towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life and the resources and teaching programme will support this commitment.

Ethnic and Cultural Diversity

The School will consult parents/carers about the needs of their children and take into consideration their views and promote respect for and understanding of the views of different ethnic and cultural groups. Resources being used will be available for parents and families to view if they wish.

Content of Relationship and Sex Education Programme

Thornbury Primary School follows the recommendations of the Dfes guidelines, in addition to Ofsted 2002 guidelines in its teaching of Relationship and Sex Education. The School proceeds in a Healthy School Whole School approach, ensuring that teaching and learning is tailored to the age and emotional maturity of the children. Lessons will be both within discrete lesson time and also in conjunction with PSHE and RE subjects.

By the end of KS1, children will have experienced teaching of:

1. Keeping safe
2. Similarities and differences between themselves and others, learning that their actions have an impact on others
3. Feelings
4. Keeping yourself clean and healthy
5. Friends
6. Families of all kinds
7. Choices and consequences
8. Gender stereotypes, recalling the physical differences boys and girls and the questioning whether children have to conform to gender stereotypes

At the end of KS2 children will have experienced lesson themes such as:

1. Reproduction and birth
2. Growing and changing and puberty
3. Feelings

4. Keeping safe
5. Friends
6. Families of all kinds
7. Choices and consequences
8. Gender and sexuality
9. Knowing that there is someone to talk to
10. Identification of male and female reproductive system

Organisation

Using 'Laying the Foundations' Handbook as a framework, with units will be allocated to double year groups where appropriate. Lessons will be delivered within other topics where relevant. The Subject Leader will monitor and evaluate lesson and feedback from pupils and parents, using the monitoring and evaluation handbook. For CPD development arrangements, the subject leader will engage with the LA officer, attend CPD and organise staff training on a group and /or individual basis.

Specific Issues within RSE

Thornbury Primary School has the legal responsibility to provide a Relationship and Sex Education programme and is prepared to update this programme and policy regularly and ensure it is available to parents and carers. The School will acknowledge the right of every parent to withdraw their children from any lesson within the Relationship and Sex education programme of study. Teachers will be careful to ensure that their personal beliefs and attitudes do not influence the teaching of this subject matter. There are clear parameters as to what will be taught in a whole class situation and what may be taught in a small group or individual setting. Children will be taught to use the correct names for body parts and precautions will be made to minimise any embarrassment within the classroom. Children also need to understand that staff cannot keep any secrets (Confidentiality Policy) and any sensitive disclosures may need attention of the school's Child Protection Officer.

Dissemination

A copy of the policy will be available for Governors and staff on the School's computer system. Paper copies will be available within the School's Prospectus.

November 2015