

# Little Munden C of E (VC) Primary School



## Sex and relationship education Policy

**Reviewed by:**

**Curriculum Committee**

**Date of approval by Governing Body: February 2017**

**Next review date:**

**February 2020**



# **Sex & Relationship Education (SRE) Policy**

**Status: Statutory**

## **Mission Statement**

We are a partnership of school, church, home and community.

We aim to provide all our children with opportunities to enjoy their learning, to be motivated and challenged and to become independent within a caring and safe environment. We value every individual and promote and celebrate their achievements within the Christian ethos of our school.

## **Purpose**

A key aim of the school is that each pupil will develop the skills and knowledge to make decisions. Decisions about how they relate to others can only be made if they have adequate knowledge and understanding of their own physical and emotional development. This is not a task for the school in isolation, and we seek to work with parents and carers to ensure that the teaching of sex education reflects their expectations and complements teaching at home. Parents and carers will be informed about the teaching of sex education so that they can decide whether or not to withdraw their child.

## **Legal obligations**

Maintained primary schools in England and Wales have a legal responsibility to provide a 'sex education' programme. They also have a responsibility to keep an up to date written statement of the policy they choose to adopt and this must be available to parents. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from 'sex education' lessons which fall outside those aspects covered in the National Curriculum Science.

## **Relationship to other policies**

Sex education forms an integral part of the curriculum policy, and the schemes of work for science, and personal, social, and health education (PSHE), and relates to child protection.

The Government's statutory safeguarding guidance for schools: ['Keeping children safe in education; statutory guidance for schools and colleges'](#) commenced from 5 September 2016. Under 'Opportunities to teach safeguarding' (point number 68) the guidance states that:

'Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure children are taught about safeguarding, including online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum. This may include covering relevant issues through personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), tutorials (in FE colleges) and/or – for maintained schools and colleges – through sex and relationship education (SRE).

## **Roles and responsibilities of headteacher, other staff, governors**

The **governing body** will:

- decide whether SRE should be in the school curriculum and, if so, what it should consist of and how it should be organised
- seek the advice of the headteacher on this policy, keep it up to date, and make it available to parents/carers
- ensure that sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life, and the importance of marriage.

The **headteacher** will ensure that:

- the governing body is advised about the nature and organisation of sex and relationships education and how it reflects the aims and values of the school
- sex education is provided in a way that encourages pupils to consider morals, the value of family life, and the importance of marriage
- pupils are protected from inappropriate teaching materials
- a scheme of work is agreed and implemented
- parents/carers are informed about the programme for sex education
- links are established and maintained with other agencies to ensure that appropriate support and guidance is accessible to pupils, staff and parents/carers.

**Staff** who teach SRE are expected to:

- provide sex education in accordance with this policy and in a way which encourages pupils to consider morals and the value of family life and the importance of marriage.
- participate in training to provide sex education in line with the school curriculum policy
- implement the agreed scheme of work
- draw to the attention of the headteacher any materials which they consider to be inappropriate
- respond appropriately to those pupils whose parents/carers wish them to be withdrawn from sex education.

The school nurse may play a role in supporting the teacher in SRE both in terms of advice, input into lessons, provision of pastoral support for pupils and resources. The school will work in ongoing consultation and partnership with the school nurse. The school nurse may be asked to provide annual SRE to children in KS2 in line with the national curriculum guidelines.

## **Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation**

The headteacher will provide a report to governors on the implementation of the scheme of work once each year in July, together with a record of parental and pupil complaints, the number of pupils withdrawn from lessons, and the number of teachers and other staff involved in training on sex education. Lessons on sex education will be observed in the normal programme of monitoring teaching and the judgements about the impact of the lesson on pupils will be included in the report.

## **The Taught SRE Programme**

The SRE programme will be delivered as part of the school's approach to PSHE and Citizenship.

### **Aims of the programme**

The overall aims of the SRE programme are:

1. To provide accurate information about, and understanding of, SRE issues.
2. To dispel myths.
3. To explore a range of attitudes towards SRE issues and to help pupils to reach their own informed views and choices for a healthier lifestyle.
4. To develop respect and care for others.
5. To increase pupils' self-esteem.
6. To develop skills relevant to effective management of relationships and sexual situations. Examples include communication with and empathy towards others, risk assessment, assertiveness, conflict management, decision making, seeking help and helping others.
7. To contribute to a reduction in local and national pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections and abortion rates.

### **Place in the curriculum**

The main SRE programme will be delivered through PSHE lessons. In addition certain biological aspects are delivered through science lessons.

### **Answering difficult questions**

Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit or difficult question in the classroom. Questions do not have to be answered and can be addressed later. This school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in these situations and refer to the PSHE/Citizenship co-ordinator concerned.

### **Parental concerns and withdrawal of students**

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from dedicated 'sex education' lessons. They do not have a right to withdraw their children from those aspects of SRE that are taught in National Curriculum Science or where SRE issues arise incidentally in other subject areas.

We will work in active partnership with parents/carers, value their views and keep them informed about our SRE provision. If a parent/carer has any concerns about the SRE provision we will take time to address their concerns and allay any fears they may have. If any parents/carers decide to withdraw their child we shall work with them and their child to explore possible alternative provision.

### **Dissemination of the Policy**

The policy will be reviewed by the teaching staff and shared with support staff. The governing Body is responsible for approving the policy every 3 years.

**Date of Governing Body approval: February 2017**