



Ipswich Preparatory School

Sex and Relationships Education Policy(SRE)

(Including EYFS)

Sex and relationships education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. Some aspects are taught in science, and others are taught as part of personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE).

The Department of Health set out its ambition for all children and young people to receive high quality sex and relationships education in the Sexual Health Improvement Framework (2013), while the Department for Education's paper *The Importance of Teaching* (2010) highlighted that 'Children need high quality sex and relationships education so they can make wise and informed choices'.

We aim to deliver a comprehensive programme of SRE, providing accurate information about the body, reproduction, sex, and sexual health at an age-appropriate level. We aim to provide balanced factual information about human reproduction, together with consideration of the broader emotional, ethical, religious and moral dimensions of sexual health. We aim to give our pupils essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline.

Aims:

- To develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour; have the confidence and self esteem to value themselves and others and respect for individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationship they want.
- To understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within sexual and pastoral relationships.
- To avoid being exploited or exploiting others or being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex.
- To communicate effectively by developing appropriate terminology for sex and relationship issues.
- To develop awareness of their sexuality and understand human sexuality; challenge sexism and prejudice and promote equality and diversity.

Teaching and Learning:

At Ipswich Prep School we believe that SRE should be an integral part of the lifelong learning process, beginning in early childhood and continue into adult life.

SRE will be delivered through PSHE, Circle Time and Science lessons. It will be predominantly taught in class groups by Form Teachers, with provision for single-sex groups as appropriate, and will be delivered as a rolling programme. Support from professionals, including the school matron, will be used as appropriate

SRE lessons are set within the wider context of the PSHE curriculum and address the emotional aspects of development and relationships and the physical aspects of puberty and reproduction. The Science curriculum is delivered in KS1 by class teachers and mostly in KS2 by the Science teacher. These lessons are more concerned with the physical aspects of development and reproduction although the importance of relationships is not forgotten.

Any SRE lesson may consider questions or issues that some children will find sensitive. Before embarking on these lessons ground rules are established which prohibit inappropriate personal information being requested or disclosed by those taking part in the lesson. When pupils ask questions, we aim to answer them honestly, within the ground rules established at the start of the sessions. When it is felt that answering a specific question would provide information at a level inappropriate to the development of the rest of the students, the question may be dealt with individually at another time. There is no expectation that any teacher delivering SRE will automatically answer pupil questions, as this may infringe personal boundaries. However, in this instance, pupils will be advised to talk to their parents or to another member of staff. Teachers ensure that SRE lessons are taught in an environment where questions and discussions on sexual matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment.

We recognise that parents are key people in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up. As such, we aim to work in partnership with pupils and parents. Prior to any lessons on puberty or reproduction taking place, parents are invited to attend a meeting where the content of lessons and resources used are shared.

SRE has three main elements:

Attitudes and Values

- Learning about the values of family life and stable relationships.
- Learning the value of respect, love and care.
- Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas.
- Developing critical thinking as part of decision making.
- Learning the importance of values, individual conscience and moral choices.
- Learning about the nurture of children.
- Challenging myths, misconceptions and false assumptions about normal behaviour.

Personal and Social Skills

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively.
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others.
- Learning to make choices based on understanding of differences and with the absence of prejudice.
- Providing opportunities for young people to develop the ability to understand the consequences of their decisions and actions, and to manage conflict.
- Empowering pupils with the skills to be able to avoid inappropriate pressures or advances (both as exploited or exploiter).

Knowledge and Understanding

- Information about healthier, safer lifestyles
- Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages.
- Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, emotions and relationships.

Curriculum Content

EYFS and Key Stage 1

- Self esteem
- The concept of growth and change
- Showing respect
- Relationships – family, friends; understanding others and respecting difference
- Feelings
- Knowing the correct names for the external parts of the body, including sexual parts where appropriate
- Personal hygiene
- Knowing places that are safe and where to go for help
- Making safe choices – saying no, when to keep a secret, when to tell
- Knowing that we have rights over our own bodies.

Key Stage 2

- Life changes
- Self esteem
- Respect for their own and others bodies
- Recognising risk/making safe choices – who has access to their bodies?
- Resisting unwanted peer pressure
- The influence of the media
- How to access help
- Feelings and emotional change (linked to puberty)
- Bullying
- Relationships (family, friends, love, marriage)
- Understanding differences
- Preparation for sexual maturity and the process of conception and birth
- How changes at puberty affect bodily hygiene

Children with special needs

Teaching and resources will be differentiated as appropriate to address the needs of all children in order for them to have full access to the content of sex and relationship education.

Withdrawal of students from sex and relationship education

Some parents prefer to take the responsibility for aspects of this element of education. They have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE (Education Act 1996) except those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum, (ie in Science lessons) the school will make alternative arrangements in such cases, and this will usually involve the child joining another class for the duration of the SRE lesson. The parent will be advised that they have an obligation to provide the information at home using information available from the DfES. Parents are encouraged to discuss their decisions with staff at the earliest opportunity and are welcome to view any SRE resources the school uses.

Equal opportunities

All pupils are entitled to receive sex and relationship education regardless of age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, ability, gender, race, religious belief, gender reassignment or grouping. Through sex and relationship education we seek to develop a positive view of female and male sexuality. It is our intention all children have the opportunity to experience a programme of SRE at a level which is appropriate for their age and physical development, with differentiated provision if required.

Safeguarding

Teachers are aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue. Under the common law young people are entitled to the same duty of confidence as adults. Personal information about them should not be shared without their permission except for the purposes of child protection as detailed in the Safeguarding Policy.

Staff Development

We acknowledge that the effective teaching of SRE, within the PSHE framework, requires particular skills and expertise. All staff will have the opportunity to attend awareness-raising sessions and to discuss whole-school issues. Those staff with specific responsibility for delivering the programme will be consulted as to their particular training requirements, and access to these will be through CPD. It is essential that those teachers delivering the programme are confident in their abilities, and in the support offered by this policy.

Links to Other Policies and Documentation

The SRE policy, with the Drugs Education Policy, forms part of the PSHE policy.
See also:

Safeguarding Children	Equal Opportunities
Confidentiality	Health and Safety
Behaviour	Pastoral

The Policy references:

DfEE Guidance for Schools [0116/2000]

Further information about the evidence base for sex and relationships education can be found in Does SRE work? and other Sex Education Forum briefings, at:
www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/evidence

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