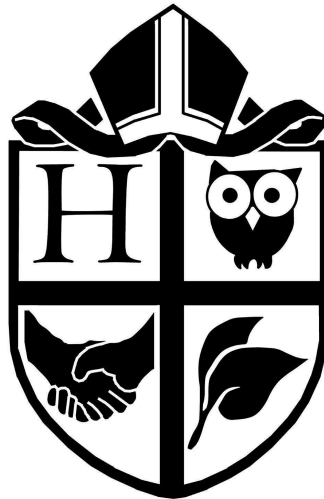




Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Hayward's Primary School



Written by:

School-based policy

Signed:

Approved by Governors:

26th March 2024

Next review due by:

March 2025

Rationale

Hayward's have taken the decision, in conjunction with governors and parents, to deliver a Sex Education Programme for all of our children. It has been designed to take account of the age, physical and emotional maturity of our pupils.

The programme ensures that:

- Both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science – how a baby is conceived and born.
- Children understand positive relationships as outlined in the Relationships and Health curriculum.

The development of this policy has been through consultations with parents, health workers, experts in SRE education and teaching staff.

The Law

The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory for all pupils receiving secondary education.⁴ They also make Health Education compulsory in all schools except independent schools. Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) continues to be compulsory in independent schools.

Schools are required to comply with relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010. Further guidance is available for schools in The Equality Act 2010 and schools advice. Schools should pay particular attention to the Public sector equality duty (PSED) (s.149 of the Equality Act). Under the provisions of the Equality Act, schools must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership, or sexual orientation (collectively known as the protected characteristics). Schools must also make reasonable adjustments to alleviate disadvantage and be mindful of the SEND Code of Practice when planning for these subjects.

Our Approach – Sex Education at Hayward's

Hayward's takes a zero tolerance approach towards discrimination in all its forms, including LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning or Queer) and will follow the school's behavior policy when incidences occur. Details of the incident will be recorded on CPOMS and will be followed up robustly by the headteacher or a member of the SLT. Where necessary, the incident will be referred to the local authority.

Our Sex Education Programme will be delivered within RSE sessions in the Summer Term. Parents will be written to in advance of the sessions to enable them to view the materials for their child's year group. Linking in with the Relationships teaching in our RSE policy, through the Sex Education Programme we want to reinforce the importance of relating to other people, respecting the rights and feelings of others, developing loving, caring relationships as friends, parents, members of a family and sexual partners. It also involves learning to say 'no' to unwanted sexual advances and how to protect oneself from abuse and exploitation. Our programme of sex education respects religious, moral and cultural viewpoints.

We follow a scheme from the Christopher Winters Project. The programme is designed to build upon (and revise) previous learning as the children work through the school. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the teaching materials to meet the developmental needs and maturity of their class. .

Our Sex Education Programme at Hayward's Primary School will:

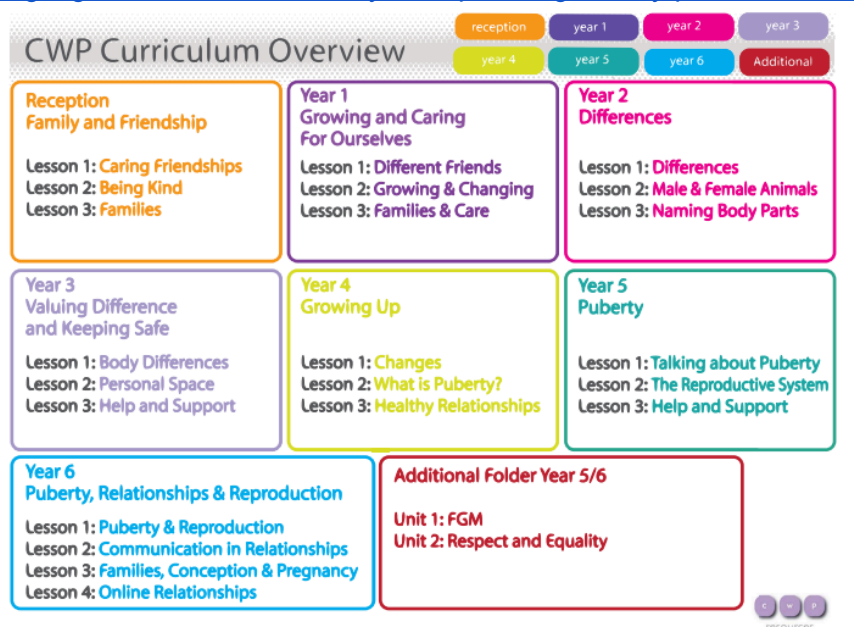
- provide an acceptable vocabulary for all parts of the male and female bodies and their functions;
- counteract myth and folklore;
- explain the nature of human reproduction using age appropriate language;
- stress the value of family life (widely defined) and the importance of proper care and nurture;
- help children to understand that they have rights and control over who touches their bodies;
- enable children to understand the danger from people that they know and strangers and help them to develop strategies to resist such situations;
- help children understand and communicate about forthcoming changes in puberty;
- provide explanations and reassurances about these physical and emotional changes and help children to adjust to them;
- Help give home and school a common vocabulary to talk about puberty and the body;
- answer awkward questions honestly and frankly, whilst reserving the right to refer age inappropriate questions to parents or guardians ;
- help children to be aware or the importance of personal hygiene;

As a result of the culture that we create in our classes, we will foster an atmosphere where children can be comfortable about asking questions about sexuality, sexual relations and reproduction.

Content

Sex Education will be taught in the PSHE and Science curriculum throughout the school using the Christopher Winters Project. The content can be further explored here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vxEo8oay6cSVqG6PZ3qxloL26yqAhx17/view?usp=sharing>



In addition, Upper Key Stage Two (Yr 5/6) will recap on year 4 work. They will also use a combination of the Christopher Winter Project resources, BBC "Growing Up" programme and the Reproduction, "Sex and Relationship Education for ages 9-11 programme". The children will look at the physical and emotional changes at the onset of puberty/menstruation and the development of relationships. They will also look at images of sex portrayed by the media, including social media and online and begin to have an understanding of contraception. It is also during this time that specialist support of the School Nurse is used whenever possible to provide expert knowledge and information to the children and where necessary, families.

In Upper Key Stage 2, there will be an opportunity for girls to talk to a female member of staff (and boys to talk to a male member of staff) during the course of this unit of work. Whenever possible, health professionals, especially the school nurse will work in partnership with the school and may come into school to discuss issues with the children.

Hayward's Primary School also uses the charity Devon Child Assault Prevention (CAP) to teach all the adults their 'safe, strong and free' message. This has included training for children around sexual abuse, understanding their body is theirs and no one else's, and a safety scream.

Answering difficult questions

Members of staff are aware that views around SRE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all SRE issues are taught without bias. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect others that may have a different opinion.

Both formal and informal SRE arising from pupils' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil(s) concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the Designated Safeguarding Lead if they are concerned. At Hayward's a question box is available in Key Stage Two where the children can 'post' questions that will be responded to individually.

Right to Withdraw from Sex Education

As sex education is not compulsory to pupils in primary education, parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of the sessions for their year group. Head teachers will automatically grant a request to withdraw a pupil from any sex education delivered in primary schools, other than as part of the Science, Relationship and Health Curriculums. With children with SEND, there may be exceptional circumstances where the head teacher may want to take a pupil's specific needs, arising from their SEND, into account when making this decision.

Where a pupil is excused from sex education, we will ensure that that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal.

Monitoring the implementation of the Policy

The governing board

The governing board will approve the Sex Education policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that SRE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of SRE.

RSE Co-ordinator

Our RSE Co-ordinator will monitor the delivery of the RSE curriculum. This will be through planning support, lesson observations, learning walks and work scrutinies.

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering the Sex Education Policy in a sensitive way
- Modeling positive attitudes
- Set up a culture in their classroom where sensitive issues can be discussed maturely
- Monitoring progress

- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory components of SRE
- Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching SRE. Staff who have concerns about teaching SRE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in Sex Education lessons and, when discussing issues related to Sex Education lessons, treat others with respect and sensitivity.