

Banister Primary School

Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Introduction

This document is drafted in accordance with the DfES document of Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfES 2000) and the Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) Association's guidance on Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) and in consultation with staff, parents and governors of Banister Primary School. It gives information on the provision of Sex and Relationship Education within Banister Primary School.

Definition

SRE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

SRE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values. SRE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

At Banister Primary School we believe that:

- all children deserve quality first teaching to ensure high levels of achievement.
- all children are entitled to high quality education through a broad, balanced and creative curriculum that meets each individuals' needs.
- all children, regardless of their ability or behaviour, should be provided with equal opportunities in an inclusive environment where everyone can feel valued.
- all children should be encouraged to become independent learners.
- all children need to develop into life-long learners who are excited and engaged by school.

Aims and Objectives

At Banister Primary School our sex and relationship education aims to:

- assist our children in preparation for adult life through physical, emotional and moral support;
- give pupils a sense of value and importance of themselves and others as individuals and be able to use emotional language;
- make the pupils aware of the changes they will go through during puberty, both emotionally and physically;

- help our pupils to develop skills and confidence to talk about their feelings as their bodies grow and change.
- give them an understanding of relationships, how they change over time and the responsibilities of relationships, particularly parenting;
- ensure children understand the human life cycle, including how a baby is conceived and born;
- generate open, honest discussions so as to dispel any misunderstandings and myths;
- challenge stereotypes of masculinity and femininity;
- help pupils realise they have rights over their bodies.
- teach the acquisition of skills, such as informed decision making and the development of positive attitudes alongside this knowledge and understanding.

At Banister Primary School the Sex and Relationship curriculum will enable pupils:

- to recognise their worth as individuals by expressing positive things about themselves and their achievements;
- to manage their feelings towards themselves and others as they approach puberty and the different emotions puberty brings;
- to reflect on social, moral and cultural issues using imagination to consider the experience of others;
- to understand the options for having a healthy lifestyle including the benefits of exercise, healthy eating and what affects positive mental health and to make informed choices;
- that bacteria and viruses can affect health and transmission may be reduced when simple routines are used;
- to manage emotions and relationships;
- to know about body changes as they approach puberty;
- to know the human life cycle, including how a baby is conceived and born.

Delivery of Sex and Relations Education

In line with the Education Act 1996 we deliver SRE in a way which encourages pupils to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life.

We believe that the delivery of Sex and Relationship Education should be:

- Compatible with the school ethos.
- Part of a wider programme of Personal, Social and Health Education.
- Co-ordinated by SLT in consultation with the class teachers.
- Delivered by members of staff e.g. class teachers or SLT in the context of other curriculum subjects (e.g. science) or as discrete subject.
- Delivered by members of staff who have the appropriate skills and training.
- Taught using a range of written and video material and a variety of activities to aid understanding and which reflect the consultation with parents/carers and the cultural diversity of the school.

In accordance to the Science national curriculum the following topics will be covered.

- In year 2 pupils will learn to notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- In year 5 pupils will describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- In year 6 pupils will recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

Ground rules may be used so that the Sex and relationships education can be taught:

- in a way which does not involve pupils or teachers answering private questions or revealing private situations.
- within a family context and in a way that does not involve stereotyping gender roles.
- in a way that recognises pupils' different cultural backgrounds and varying levels of physical and emotional maturity.

Working with Parents

The school is committed to working with parents. Under the Education Act 1996 pupils can be withdrawn by their parents from the parts of sex education that are outside the compulsory elements contained in the science national curriculum.

Parents of Year Five and Year Six will be sent a letter prior to the sex and relationship lessons informing them of the aims of the lessons and their basic content. The letter will also invite them to a consultation meeting where they will be able to review the resources used, including the videos the pupils watch and ask questions about the content that will be taught. The letter will also explain their right to withdraw their child/ren from the sex and relationship lessons that are outside the science curriculum. Parents wishing to withdraw their children will be asked to contact the Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher to discuss their concerns. If they choose to withdraw their child, it will be assumed that they are providing their own education.

Parents will be informed:

- Whenever there is a major change to the Sex and Relationship Education policy
- Whenever resources relating to the sex and relationship programme are to be used or amended.

Parents will be given the opportunity to view any materials used.

Answering Difficult Questions

Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit or difficult question in the classroom. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. This school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in these situations and refer to the Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher if they are concerned.

Confidentiality

As a general rule a child's confidentiality will be maintained by the teacher or member of staff taking the lessons. If this person believes that a child is at risk or in danger, he/she will talk to the Headteacher or one of the Child safeguarding Leads and follow the school's safeguarding policy. The child will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and the reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process.

Equal Opportunities

Banister Primary School is committed to equality of opportunity in all areas of school life. All resources used and methods adhere to this aim.

Monitoring and Review

This policy has been drawn up and agreed by the parents, staff and governors of Banister Primary School. A copy of this policy will be made available at school for any parent to view at any time and also a copy placed on the school website. Pupil's progression in SRE will be monitored by the class teachers. It will be reviewed by Governors annually.

Links with other policies:

Safeguarding Policy
Equal Opportunities Policy

Date agreed: 5th October 2018

Date to be reviewed: October 2019