AYLSHAM LEARNING FEDERATION

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY
JOHN OF GAUNT INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Policy Reference:	CT/SRE (JOG) Policy	Review Frequency:	2 Years
Issue Number:	01 (12.02.2019)	Next Review Date:	12.02.2021
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Ratified by the Governors' Curriculum, Assessment and Attainment Committee on: 12.02.2019

Signed: .....

Chair

Introduction

There is a legal requirement for governors to set out a policy to state if and how sex education is provided in school. Parents have the right to withdraw a child from sex education, provided they discuss their reasons with the Head of School. At John of Gaunt there is no formal sex education, however questions and enquiries from children will be dealt with in an age appropriate and sensitive manner.

Aims and objectives

Sex education includes learning about oneself and how to respect the human body. Sex education includes learning about other people, how to develop loving, and caring relationships as friends, parents and members of a family. It should encourage respect for other people's feelings.

Our objectives are:

- To provide the knowledge and information to which all children are entitled;
- To raise children's self-esteem and confidence, especially in relationships with others;
- To help children develop skills and make the most of their abilities;
- To enable children to be participating members of our community and value themselves and others;
- To develop healthy lifestyle skills;
- To develop communication skills which enable them to cope with influences of the peer and the media;
- To respect and care for their bodies;
- To treat others with sensitivity.

Context

Whilst dealing with children's enquiries and questions all staff show an awareness of the moral code and values which underpin all our work in school. In particular, we believe that:

- Sex education should be taught in the context of family life;
- Sex education is part of a wider social, personal, spiritual and moral education process;
- Children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies;
- It is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect;

Organisation

We answer enquiries and questions about sex in an understanding, sensitive and age appropriate manner.

In PSHE we teach children about relationships, and we encourage children to discuss issues.

In science lessons in key stage 1 we teach children about ourselves and living things including life cycles. Children learn to appreciate the differences between people and how to show respect for each other.

The role of parents/carers

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's sex education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation.

The role of other members of the community

We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to health education.

Confidentiality

Teachers deal with questions and enquiries about sex in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved, or likely to be involved in sexual activity, then the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection. Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse. If the teacher has concerns, they will draw their concerns to the attention of the Designated Senior Lead for Safeguarding (DSL)

The DSL will then deal with the matter according to the safeguarding policy incorporating child protection.

The role of the Head of School

It is the responsibility of the Head of School to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our sex education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Head of School's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity. The Head of School monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

Monitoring and review

The CAA Committee of the Governing Board monitors our sex education policy regularly. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full Governing Board, as necessary, if the policy needs modification.