

Hessle Federation of Schools

Penshurst Primary School

Sex Education Policy

It is a requirement of Section 1 of the Education Reform Act, 1988 that all pupils should be offered the opportunity of receiving a comprehensive, well-planned programme of sex education.

It is a requirement of Section 241 of the Education Act, 1993 that governing bodies of maintained primary schools will have the responsibility of considering whether or at what stage to offer sex education and that the governing body must make and keep an up to-date written statement of the policy it chooses to adopt; this statement must be available for inspection by parents.

1. The aim of the policy is to develop the children's self-esteem and self respect so that they can form attitudes, values and beliefs, which will ensure that they become responsive and caring individuals.
2. The objective of the policy is twofold:
 - a) To establish with clarity what children will actually receive in terms of Sex Education at Penshurst;
 - b) To publicise the practice and procedure at Penshurst in relationship to Sex Education.

Principles

1. Sex Education will be provided as appropriate to the age, ability and needs of the pupils.
2. Sex Education will be provided in such a manner as to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of the pupils' family life.
3. Sex Education will reflect the ethos of the school and the community it serves.
4. The Sex Education programme will give the pupils the knowledge needed to encourage respect for themselves and others and to take responsibility for their own actions.

Delivery POLICY

Equal opportunities

~~All children will be given the opportunity and are entitled to the same information regardless of gender, religion, creed, nationality etc.~~

Content headings for school Sex Education Programme

1. Sex Education will embrace the needs of all pupils, recognizing diverse backgrounds and special educational needs. It will develop and explore knowledge, skills, attitudes and values around a range of topics.
2. As good Sex Education at this stage provides a secure foundation for later work, the programme will be planned appropriate to the children's needs and levels of development. Sex Education will be teacher-led and directed and a variety of teaching methods will be employed to encourage pupil discussion and involvement.
3. Sex Education will be delivered through the Health Education programme, which is itself, taught via a spiralled curriculum according to age/year group.

Age	Year group
10 - 11	5 - 6
8 - 9	3 - 4
6 - 7	1 - 2
4 - 5	Nursery & Reception

4. Health Education in each age/year group will be developed through three themes:
 - a) "Me and looking after myself";
 - b) "Me and my relationships";
 - c) "Me and my community and environment".
5. Topics will include:
 - a) Family Relationships;
 - b) Growing Up;

- c) Humans can produce babies (at Key Stage 1) and the main stages of human life cycle (at Key Stage 2). These topics are compulsory under the National Curriculum Science Orders;
- d) Infection, prevention and relevant health issues;
- e) Different types of sexual relationships, resisting unwanted sexual experience and whether everyone needs to behave in the same way.

Organization of school Sex Education

- 1 The policy will be implemented by the teaching staff with the governing body maintaining a general overview.
- 2 The school will ensure that all staff are kept up-dated on all new legislation.
- 3 The school will enable all staff to keep pace with changes in "best - practice" guide-lines via access to a variety of training appropriate to the needs of the individual and of the school.
- 4 All teaching staff have access to "health professionals" in support roles.
- 5 The programme will be comprehensive with an agreed scheme of work and an adequate budget will be allocated for resources and training to make it effective. Resources will be made available for:
 - a) The necessary teaching materials;
 - b) The necessary supervision and accommodation for alternative learning when a child has been withdrawn from Sex Education.
- 6 Parents and all non-teaching staff will be kept informed of the organization of Sex Education in the school as all may, at some time, need to react to questions/situations that may arise involving pupils.
- 7 Consideration will be given to children withdrawn while their classmates are receiving Sex Education. The school is aware of the potential for bullying of children who have been withdrawn and will consider how to minimize this.
- 8 Parents will be advised that the school cannot accept responsibility for information exchanged between pupils.

Specific Issues

1 Working with parents:

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from any or all parts of the school's programme of Sex Education, other than those elements which are required by the National Curriculum Science Order. The right of withdrawal does not apply to the discussion of sexual matters outside the planned Sex Education programme. The school will ensure that the arrangements it makes for the submission of such requests are straightforward, are easily understood and avoid putting undue pressure on parents who decide to exercise this right. Parents requesting withdrawal will be invited to discuss their concerns with the Head/Deputy Head teacher.

Parents can exercise their right by making a written request to the school.

2 Advice to individual pupils:

Part of the school's role is to help pupils who want advice about personal problems:

- a) Teachers should encourage pupils to discuss their concerns with their parents/guardians;
- b) Teachers can give advice to pupils who have not been withdrawn from Sex Education within the boundaries of their own professional role;
- c) The school nurse may also play an important role in pastoral care.

3. Procedures for supporting any members of the school community infected or affected by HIV

Employees, pupils and their parents/guardians who are HIV anti-body positive, or who have AIDS will not be required to inform any member of staff, governing body or LA.

In the event of any pupil or their parents/guardians being HIV positive or having AIDS strict confidentiality must be maintained. Such information however obtained must not be disclosed without written consent.

It is recognized that support and counselling is sometimes necessary when dealing with an HIV/AIDS issue. Individuals may need personal support and a list of agencies can be obtained from the school office.

4 Particular care will be exercised in relation to contraceptive advice to pupils under 16. The general rule will be that giving an individual pupil advice without parental knowledge or consent will be an inappropriate exercise of a teacher's professional responsibility. Teachers will encourage a pupil who asks for specific advice to request such advice from his or her parents/guardians and, if appropriate, from the relevant health professional. If a teacher believes that a pupil is placing him or herself at moral or physical risk or is breaking the law, the teacher should ensure that the pupil is aware of the implication and guide him or her towards advice from parents/guardians or health professionals. The teacher should inform the Headteacher in such cases.

5 Teachers will not promise pupils confidentiality.

6 Complaints Procedure

Where a parental concern exists in relation to the Sex Education Policy and Curriculum content, parents will be advised of the LA's formal complaints.

7 If outside speakers are to be used in teaching Sex Education, the school must ensure they work within the policy. They will be briefed thoroughly and given copies of the policy.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1 The Curriculum and Staffing committee will take responsibility for ensuring that the policy is monitored systematically.

2 The monitoring and evaluation process will be the responsibility of teaching staff.

3 The effectiveness of the policy can be monitored by:

a) Checking teachers' planning;

b) Evaluating the children's verbal and recorded work;

c) The policy will be overseen on an annual basis by governors' working party;

d) ~~In the long term by surveying and~~ Interviewing children to obtain their feedback.

4 ~~The criteria for success is that the children of Penshurst acquire, retain and carry forward to higher education the knowledge gained of Sex Education issues.~~

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| Date June 2008

Review June 2010

Review Responsibility

Monitoring Responsibility Curriculum and Staffing Committee

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