

MANEY HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL



RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Reviewed by Staff:	June 2023
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RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

INTRODUCTION

At Maney Hill Primary School we have developed an ongoing programme of education and support which aims to ensure that the children who attend our school are nurtured towards maturity physically, emotionally and morally. Pupils need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy. Pupils need to be empowered to know how to face difficult situations, develop resilience and to know how and when to ask for help or access support if needed. We aim to ensure that the teaching and nurturing of the fundamental qualities of love, care and respect underpins the whole of our School curriculum and forms the basis of our ethos.

Our Relationships and Sex Education Policy is one of the key building blocks of this programme. The policy is firmly embedded across the whole school and curriculum. It forms an important aspect of our Healthy Schools Standard and encompasses key objectives from our Science Curriculum.

This policy has been developed in conjunction with the DFE Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education Regulations 2019.

Key Objectives

Relationships education

- Understand the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships.
- Understand what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who the people are who can provide support.
- Know how to take turns, how to treat others with kindness, consideration and respect.
- Know how to be safe online.

Physical health and mental wellbeing

- Make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing.
- Know how to seek support as early as possible from appropriate sources.
- Understand that good physical health contributes to good mental wellbeing.
- Learn how to have self-control and the ability to self-regulate.
- Learn how to persevere in different situations.
- Know the benefits of rationing time spent online and the risk of excessive use of electronic devices.
- Understand the importance of healthy eating.
- Know the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking (Year 6 only).
- Concepts of basic first-aid (Year 6 only).
- Puberty and the changing adolescent body (physical and emotional changes).
- Key facts about the menstrual cycle (Year 5 and 6 only).

At Maney Hill Primary School, we have a commitment to ensure that our programme is relevant to all pupils and is taught in a way that is age and stage appropriate.

EYFS	To develop skills to form friendships and think about relationships with others
Year 1	To identify and respect differences and similarities between people
Year 2	To use the correct vocabulary for parts of the body and identify differences and similarities To recognise special people in their lives and identify their own strengths
Year 3	To recognise increasing responsibilities as children develop into adults To explore the human life cycle
Year 4	To explore the physical changes in puberty To explore the emotional changes in puberty
Year 5	To identify basic facts about pregnancy and the reproductive organs To consider the responsibilities of becoming a parent To explore a range of different families To identify professionals who can provide support to families
Year 6	To explore physical and emotional changes during puberty *To know and understand the importance of personal hygiene during puberty *To understand how babies are conceived To recognise different types of relationships

The children will be taught in their class groups and lessons will be taught by their class teacher. Prior to its delivery in Years 5 and 6, a letter will be sent to parents stating our intention to deliver the lessons and the objectives to be covered. Objectives marked with an * will be taught in gender groups.

In addition to the above objectives, Maney Hill Primary School has a statutory duty to teach the following as part of the Science National Curriculum:

EYFS

Children learn about the concept of male and female and about young animals.

Key Stage 1

- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.

Key Stage 2

- Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.
- Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- Describe the changes as humans develop to old age.
- Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child/children from these above aspects of the Science Curriculum.

MONITORING AND EVALUATING

The Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum Lead will monitor the delivery of the Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum and report annually to the Governing Body. At the end of each programme an opportunity will be given to the children to express any concerns. Where appropriate teachers may feedback concerns to parents, if they consider further support is needed.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

All individuals will be given the same opportunity to learn irrespective of any protected characteristics (sex, race, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or pregnancy or maternity).

Schools have a responsibility under the government's Inclusion Strategy to provide effective learning opportunities for all pupils, setting out three principles that are essential to developing a more inclusive curriculum;

- setting suitable challenges
- responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils

(DCFS 'The National Curriculum Handbook for primary teachers in England'/P30 'Inclusion: providing effective learning opportunities for all pupils').

ROLE OF PARENTS

The School recognises that the role of parents, as educators, is fundamental to the delivery of our Relationships and Sex Education programme. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the Sex Education programme. They can discuss their concerns with their child's class teacher or the head teacher. It is our wish to respect the views and wishes of parents in this regard and to ensure that they are kept informed at all times.

CHILD PROTECTION/CONFIDENTIALITY

Teachers will conduct Sex Education lessons in a sensitive manner and seek to provide an atmosphere of trust and confidentiality. We would wish that the children would express their thoughts and concerns in an open and honest fashion in order to avoid stress or embarrassment.

If a child expresses worries or concerns or makes comments to a teacher that he/she feels is inappropriate, or where the teacher feels that he/she is unable to respond in a professional manner, then the Head Teacher or Assistant Headteacher will be informed immediately. If deemed appropriate the child's parents will be informed.

If a child makes 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 they suspect that a child may be the victim of abuse. In these circumstances the teacher will speak to the child and draw their concerns to the attention of the Headteacher in their role as DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead). The school will then deal with the matter according to the guidelines laid down in the schools Child Protection Policy.

In the above context 'teacher' is inclusive of any professional person involved in the delivery of the programme.