




SEX & RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION **POLICY**

Date this policy was formally reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body of Kelvin Grove Primary School:	20.5.16
Signed on behalf of the Governing Body by:	Mr Ian Mearns MP Chair of Governors
Signature:	
Date:	20.5.16
Details and dates of minor amendments:	5.4.16 policy reviewed.
Date next full review is due:	Spring 2018

Please note that this school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers, governors, parents and visitors to share this commitment.



Introduction

We have based our school's sex & relationships education policy on the Department of Education guidance document Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (ref DfES 0116/2000). In this document, sex education is defined as 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health'. Sex education is part of the personal, social and health education curriculum in our school. While we use sex education to inform children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions. We do not use sex & relationships education as a means of promoting any form of sexual orientation.

Aims and objectives

We teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults
- the way humans reproduce
- respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term, and loving relationship
- the importance of family life
- moral questions
- relationship issues
- respect for the views of other people
- sex abuse and what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters

Context

We teach sex & relationships education in the context of the school's aims and values framework. In particular, we teach sex & relationships education in the belief that:

- sex & relationships education should be taught in the context of marriage, committed long-term relationships and family life
- sex & relationships education is part of a wider social, personal, spiritual and moral education process
- children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies



- children should learn about their responsibilities to others, and be aware of the consequences of sexual activity
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect

Organisation

We teach sex & relationships education through different aspects of the curriculum. While we carry out the main sex education teaching in our personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum, we also teach some sex & relationships education through other subject areas (for example, science and PE), where we feel that they contribute significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body and how it is changing and developing. The subject is both planned for and also taught in appropriate contexts as incidents occur.

In PSHE we teach children about relationships, and we encourage children to discuss issues. We teach about the parts of the body and how these work and we explain to them how bodies develop during puberty. We encourage the children to ask for help if they need it.

In science lessons in both key stages, teachers inform children about puberty and how a baby is born. For this aspect of the school's teaching, we follow the guidance material in the national scheme of work for science. In Key Stage 1 we teach children about how animals, including humans, move, feed, grow and reproduce, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body. Children learn to appreciate the differences between people and how to show respect for each other. In Key Stage 2 we teach about life processes and the main stages of the human life cycle in greater depth.

In Year 6 we place a particular emphasis on health education, as many children experience puberty at this age. We liaise with the Local Health Authority about suitable teaching materials to use with our children in these lessons. Children follow a television programme, which sensitively covers human relationships and development, as well as reproduction. Teachers do their best to answer all questions with sensitivity and care.

The role of parents

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's sex & relationships 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. In promoting this objective we:



- inform parents about the school's sex & relationships education policy and practice
- answer any questions that parents may have about the sex & relationships education of their child
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for sex & relationships education in the school

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex & relationships education programme that we teach in our school. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex & relationships education lessons, they should discuss this with the head teacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. The school always complies with the wishes of parents in this regard.

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. In particular, members of the Local Health Authority, such as the school nurse and other health professionals, give us valuable support with our sex & relationships education programme.

Confidentiality

Teachers conduct sex & relationships education lessons 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. In these circumstances the teacher will inform the Designated Person for Child Protection who will deal with the incident following the guidelines stated in the Child Protection Policy.

The role of the Head Teacher

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our sex & relationships education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Head Teacher'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 Teacher liaises with external agencies regarding the school sex & relationships education programme, and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework.



The Head Teacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

Monitoring and review

The Curriculum Committee of the governing body monitors our sex & relationships education policy on an annual basis. This committee reports its findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The Curriculum Committee gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the sex & relationships education programme, and makes a record of all such comments.

The school has been awarded the National Healthy School status and the school actively supports healthy eating and drinking throughout the school day.

This policy document was produced in consultation with the entire school community, including pupils, parents, school staff, governors, LEA representatives, School Health Visitor and the local Healthy Schools representative.