

Great Easton Church of England School Relationship and Sex Policy



Definition

RSE is life - long learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of 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.

Background and Context

Gt Easton is a rural primary school covering Five Parishes: Chickney, Tilty, Broxton, Lt Easton and Gt Easton. Almost all of the children come from white British backgrounds and from both single and dual parent families.

Introduction

Effective RSE can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It is essential for supporting young people to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. We believe that RSE is developmental and a foundation to further work to be undertaken in secondary school and should be tailored to the age and physical and emotional maturing of children. Our broad and balanced curriculum promotes the physical, moral, social, spiritual and cultural development of children.

Aims

Through RSE we aim to teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults, dealing with subjects like personal hygiene and puberty.
- decision making, so that they can move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.
- the way humans reproduce.
- relationship issues and keeping themselves safe, including Cyber-bullying.
- respect for their own bodies.

- the importance of family life and family units and the many different forms these can take.
- moral questions.
- learn about their responsibilities to others, incorporating work on trust and respect.

Teaching and Learning

RSE is not taught in isolation but embedded in all curriculum areas, including PSHE and Citizenship, Philosophy, RE and Science.

At Gt Easton Primary school "pupil voice" is encouraged and is important for children to feel involved in their learning. Through class and school councils children practise expressing their views, which enable them to be open, to listen to the opinions of others, to argue and discuss a range of issues.

RSE is normally delivered by class teachers in mixed gender groups other than when it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups. Occasionally outside agencies will be invited in to school to offer support in the delivery of RSE.

At all times in our RSE teaching the overarching principle is to ensure the present and future well-being of children and to meet their learning needs. It is also important for lessons to help children to realise the nature and consequences of discrimination, teasing, bullying and aggressive behaviours, including homophobia, biphobia, transgender bullying, cyber-bullying and racism.

RSE is provided for all pupils responding to the differing needs of faiths, cultures and family backgrounds.

The school aims to work in partnership with parents and carers. The teaching offered by the school will be complimentary and supportive to the role of parents in helping children to cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up and preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities which sexual maturity brings.

Content

The PSHE curriculum covers 3 core schemes-: Health and well-being, Relationships, and Living in the Wider World. We follow The Health for Life

Scheme for both Key stages and its units of study always begin with the child's own experiences. It is a spiral programme which ensures learning is revisited, reinforced and extended in age-and stage-appropriate contexts (see PSHE policy).

The Governing Body and Head Teacher consult parents in developing an RSE policy which reflects our community.

Specific Issues within RSE

1. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the relationships and sex education provided at school, except for those parts included in the National Curriculum Science scheme. Parents and carers wishing to do this must meet with the Head teacher, where the impact of this withdrawal will be discussed.
2. Confidentiality - Teachers conduct sex 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. (see child protection policy)
3. The Head teacher's role is to keep staff updated in new training eg FGM, Homophobia, Biphobia and Transgender and to ensure that staff teach effectively and handle any difficult issues sensitively.
4. The RSE policy is monitored by the Governing Body and reviewed as necessary.

Ratified by Governors: Thursday 10th March 2016

Review Date: Spring 2018

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.