



Greenholm Primary School

Sex & Relationships

Overarching statement

At Greenholm we are a school that is welcoming, safe and creates an environment which values and supports everyone learning. We work hard to create an ethos that promotes inclusive practice for all, by providing a consistent and fair approach, which is supportive of the continual emotional development of all and by demonstrating mutual respect, openness and honesty

Overview.

Greenholm School is a large primary school just outside the city centre. It has just over 400 pupils with at least three members of staff within each year group. The school community is very diverse and as far as possible the staff team represents the diverse community we work in. At Greenholm School we believe that everyone matters and by enjoying and engaging children, all young people will succeed. We recognise that issues around sex and relationship education need to be managed in a sensitive manner and therefore the Governors, staff and children at school review this policy on a regular basis.

Aims.

- To ensure that children have the necessary skills to develop friendships with all children.
- To ensure that children value and respect each other and themselves,
- To ensure that all children are aware of their rights and responsibilities towards each other and themselves.
- To prepare children for growing up
- To ensure that children understand what positive relationships are and have the necessary skills to be able to form these with their peers and adults.
- To enable children to understand the process of reproduction

This policy supports the Every Child Matters agenda by:-

Staying Safe – Ensuring that we provide the right environment for all children to feel safe, where they can learn to value and respect each other and themselves and their bodies and that they know how to keep themselves safe, healthy and well.

Being Healthy – through enabling children to communicate their thoughts and feelings, this will ensure that they are able to lead emotionally secure lives.

Making a positive contribution – By ensuring that children respect each other and themselves, this will enable them to make a positive contribution to the community in which they live in the future.

Achieving economic well-being – by ensuring that all children are mentally healthy and have a positive self esteem

Enjoy and achieving – by ensuring that children are able to respect each other and themselves, and make meaningful friendships, this will ensure that they are able to lead happy and contented lives in the future.

Introduction.



‘Effective Sex and relationships education in schools can help all children build happier, healthier relationships both now and in their adult lives’ National Children’s Bureau

At Greenholm education about sex and relationships is firmly rooted within the personal, social, moral and cultural curriculum. It links to many other school policies including citizenship, behaviour, science and inclusion policies. Within the school setting the objective of Sex and relationship education is to help and support our pupils through their physical, moral and emotional development and the aim of the teaching is to help them to learn to respect themselves and others and to move with confidence from childhood into adolescence.

We recognise the importance of working in partnership with parents/carers in this area of personal development and acknowledge the contribution other outside professionals in this area of the curriculum.

Effective relationships and sex education is key in supporting children through their development and therefore supporting them in making informed life choices confidently and furthering their respect for themselves and others as they move through life.

Equality of Opportunity.

All pupils regardless of their developing sexuality are entitled to a Sex and relationship curriculum which is relevant to their age and sensitive to their needs. Staff should be aware that for some children this will be their main and sometimes only source of sex education particularly for children some ethnic communities.

Confidentiality and Managing disclosures

All staff, children and parents must be aware of the boundaries regarding confidentiality. Pupils’ need to understand and know that they have confidentiality rights and these should be explained prior to any work around SRE. There may be occasions when, however easy children find talking to their parents, there may be occasions when young people can be worried by issues and therefore are unable to communicate openly with them. Staff should listen on these occasions and answer children as honestly as they can, but cannot promise complete confidentiality especially where there may be safeguarding implications. If this happens it is important to make it clear that the information they have discussed must be shared for their safety. (Child Protection policy)

Objectives for teaching SRE at Greenholm

- To support all pupils through their spiritual, physical, moral and emotional development.
- To deliver learning at the appropriate time to meet pupils needs.
- To generate an atmosphere where questions of a sexual nature can be asked and answered openly and honestly without embarrassment and where trust and confidentiality are respected.
- To enable all pupils to develop their knowledge, understanding and communication skills so that they are able to make informed choices
- To enable pupils to develop positive and non-exploitative relationships.
- To enable children to be aware of the personal, physical and emotional changes in themselves and others
- To enable pupils to understand the process of human reproduction
- To emphasis the role and value of family life.
- To work in partnership with parents, families and pupils to promote positive relationships and support for young people



Values promoted are:

- Respect for themselves and others
- Taking responsibility for ones actions in all situations
- The importance of honesty and loyalty in relationships
- Sensitivity towards others needs and views
- To recognise, accept and respect the differences in others

Desired Outcomes

- Pupils are given accurate information to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives.
- Young people are taught about human sexuality in a way that encourages them to mature and respect themselves without prejudice.
- Pupils are informed about relationships, love, care and responsibilities of parenthood.
- Pupils feel confident able to talk about their feelings
- Pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their development
- Pupils are informed and supported through the emotional and physical experiences of puberty.

Content of the curriculum.

The curriculum is organised through a series of themes building on skills as children move through the school. These themes are curriculum based, with many aspects of science being key to this area of learning. However, much of the learning in this area will also be within SEAL, which is ‘Social emotional aspects of learning’, circle time, speaking and listening development and through the key aspects.

	Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term.
Reception	Our bodies		Animals and their young
Year 1		Senses	How animals grow
Year 2	Importance of exercise/ medicines		
Year 3		Know what animals need to live	
Year 4	Know how the body moves and stays healthy		
Year 5		Growth and development of humans	Importance of reproduction
Year6	How to care for ourselves		Growing and changing

Ground rules.

Staff should develop a set of ground rules with the pupils prior to the unit of work beginning. This is to ensure a safe environment in which no-one feels embarrassed or anxious about unintended or unexpected questions or comments from pupils.

Organisation

During specific teaching of sex and relationship issues within year 6, the teaching is organised so that children have a clear set of ground rules and learning is very much based around responsibilities as they grow and change. This is timed to coincide with the move from Primary to secondary school so that children know and



understand the changes that will be happening to them as they move into puberty, and that they have responsibilities to themselves and others as they develop.

Teaching is planned around the main themes of knowledge, skills and attitudes, so that the children can acquire factual information, so that they have the life skills to act upon and make informed decisions based on the knowledge they have and so that they have the opportunity to question and reflect upon what forms their attitudes and influences them.

Teaching happens in mixed groups and children are encouraged to ask questions with their parents on such things as their birth to how they were given their name, before thinking about how the body changes as it moves through puberty to the reasons why those changes occur.

Discussion with their year group peers supports them in developing self esteem and self worth as well as developing independence and the confidence to have their say.

Specific issues

Although sex and relationship education is specifically taught in year 6, it is embedded throughout the curriculum in SEAL, where children are given opportunities to reflect on their behaviour and rights and responsibilities towards themselves and each other. They are actively encouraged to consider their feelings and the feelings of others.

Information is sent home for parents and parents have the right to withdraw their children if they wish to, although before doing so, parents would be invited into school to discuss the issues with the Headteacher.

Sessions are always delivered with two adults present, so that should a disclosure be made there are two members of staff present to deal with this.

Confidentiality

A school place is a very public place where it is inappropriate to discuss private issues, but through interactions with teachers, or taught subjects within the curriculum, situations may arise where children make a disclosure to a member of staff, visitor or volunteer and all members of staff need to know what they do with this information. All staff are trained to deal with this and where appropriate a referral to the designated child protection officer is made. All staff and volunteers in school know who these people are and training on all matters around child protection is regularly reviewed.

Working with parents

We believe that working with parents is vital to ensure that children have the best range of experiences. On the sensitive subject such as sexual relationships it is important that parents feel that they can trust the school to be discreet and as such all parents are given the right to withdraw their child if they feel it is appropriate. Parents are always involved in the programme and children are encouraged to speak to their parents about their own birth and how they got their names.

Monitoring and evaluating sex and relationships education

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis and parents, children and staff will be consulted. The programme of work is monitored by the children's responses, staff and parental feedback.

Date for review

September 2015