

Sex & Relationships Education Policy



Policy adopted by Governing Body on: January 2020

Chair of Governors (print name): Mr R Edwards

Signature:

Review date : January 2023

Accessible Formats

This document is available in English and Welsh in Microsoft Word and pdf formats in Arial font size 14 as standard.

Other accessible formats including large print, Braille, BSL DVD, easy-read, audio and electronic formats, and other languages can be made available upon request.

To request a copy of this document in an accessible format contact Ysgol Bryn Deva (school phone number).

1. Introduction

Bryn Deva school plays a central role in having a positive and sustained impact on children and young people's sexual health and well-being. All learners in Bryn Deva will receive high-quality sex and relationships education (SRE) as part of their personal and social development.

The Welsh Assembly Government's Seven Core Aims for Children and Young People summarise the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) 2004. 'The Core Aims describe the entitlement of children and young people to access educational and health services, and address their right to be listened to and to participate in the decisions that affect them.'

'Effective school SRE programmes help learners to develop the skills and knowledge appropriate to their age, understanding and development. Learners are enabled to make responsible decisions about their relationships, sexual health and well-being'.

Welsh Assembly Government Circular 019/2010 Sex and Relationships Education in Schools

Legal Context

This policy meets the legal requirement for all Governing Bodies of maintained schools to keep an up to date, written statement with regard to the provision of Sex Education.

Welsh Assembly Government Circular 019/2010 Sex and Relationships Education in Schools

Definition of Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)

'Sex and relationships education (SRE) is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up; relationships; sex; human sexuality; and sexual health. It should equip children and young people with the information, skills and values to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships and to take responsibility for their sexual health and wellbeing'.

The Family Planning Association (FPA) www.fpadirect@fpa.org.uk

2. Aim

Sex and Relationships Education at Bryn Deva school aims to equip children and young people with the information, skills and values they need to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships and to take responsibility for their sexual health and well-being.

3. Objectives

The school will:

- Help children understand the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care
- Help children to understand the information and situations they come across and to put them in a values framework
- Help children to communicate about matters to do with their bodies and relationships without embarrassment
- Provide information on:
 - Loving relationships
 - Names of parts of the body
 - Appropriate and inappropriate touching
 - Different kinds of families
 - The process of reproduction
 - The physical and emotional changes associated with puberty
 - The development of the foetus in the uterus and the birth
 - The needs of babies and the responsibility of parenthood
- Keep children safe by helping them to recognise and respond appropriately to unacceptable behaviour by adults and other children
- Teach children to respect themselves and other people
- Help children to understand their own feelings and the feelings of others

4. Environment and Ethos of the School

The school's environment and ethos support the pupils' personal development in the following areas:

- Planned Sex and Relationships Education within PSE with a clear purpose to each input
- Planned teaching of relevant knowledge and understanding, skills, values and attitudes within National Curriculum subjects and RE;

- Teaching and learning strategies which use interactive and experiential approaches that are relevant and suitable to the needs and aptitudes of pupils and which offer ample time for discussion and reflection
- Valuing pupils and promoting positive relationships and self-esteem
- Effective coordination and staff training and support
- Opportunities in school for pupils to participate in decision making
- Positive behavioural approaches

5. Curriculum

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) will be taught within the context of the Framework for Children' Learning for 3 to 7 year olds, the Personal and Social Education (PSE) Framework for 7 to 19-year-olds as a basis for provision and the Science order.

Foundation Phase Framework for Children's Learning for 3 to 7 year olds in Wales (2008) (APPENDIX 1)

Education about relationships for 3 to 7 year-olds should focus on the building of self-esteem by encouraging learners to:

- value themselves
- recognise and communicate their feelings
- form friendships and relationships

By the end of the Foundation Phase, Year 2 pupils will recognise parts of their body in order to differentiate between male and female. Terms used for male are penis and testicles and the terms used for female are breasts and vagina.

Personal and Social Education Framework for 7 to 19 year olds in Wales (2008) (APPENDIX 2)

SRE should help 7 to 11-year-olds to understand:

- the reasons for the physical and emotional changes that take place at puberty, to include conception, pregnancy and birth
- the range of their own and others' feelings and emotions
- the importance of personal safety
- how to distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate touch
- what to do or to whom to go when feeling unsafe.

As children and young people develop sexually they need to understand bodily changes, manage sexual feelings and enjoy safe, healthy and happy personal relationships. Learners can also be enabled to explore their feelings, develop self-awareness and self-respect and develop their self-esteem.

By the end of year 6, the school will ensure that pupils are aware of the reasons for the physical and emotional changes during puberty.

6. Organisation and Delivery

The learning experience should be delivered with a sensitive, relaxed, informative approach and through active, experiential learning. Circle time will be used for open discussion and debate as well as question and answer sessions.

The content should be closely matched to the individual needs of the children. Some issues are genuinely sensitive yet it is important to keep abreast of current issues locally and nationally so that learners are able to make wise, sensible and informed choices about their lives and their personal relationships.

Most lessons will be taught in mixed sex groups by their class teacher; however single sex and relationships lessons will be built into the programme to ensure that both boys and girls have an opportunity to ask questions which may be sensitive for them.

In **Year 2**, during the Summer Term, pupils will learn the names of body parts in order to differentiate between male and female. They will also learn about appropriate and inappropriate touch.

In **Year 3 and 4**, during the Summer Term, pupils will revise the activities taught in Year 2 and will learn about some aspects of the human body through projects such as ourselves and healthy living.

Sexual aspects within the national curriculum will be taught mainly in **Years 5 and 6**, during the Summer Term, through an organised programme of Sex and Relationships Educational lessons. The curriculum time will be flexible, depending on the needs of specific classes.

6.1 Resources

The SENSE CD-rom resource is mainly used in Sex and Relationships Education, as recommended by Welsh Government, for years 5/6.

The interactive 'Growing Up' / Tyfu i Fyny resources provided by Healthy Schools support delivery in years 2 upwards.

A selection of the following resources also support delivery in Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2:

- Circle Time resources
- SEAL
- School library

6.2 Answering Questions

- Teachers will attempt to answer general questions from pupils honestly considering the pupils age and maturity
- Teachers will use a question box which gives children the opportunity to ask questions anonymously and will provide an opportunity for teachers to consider their responses
- If a pupil asks questions about values, teachers will refer the child to its family and will try to avoid giving own views as the only right one
- Teachers will deal honestly, sensitively and in a non judgemental way with sexual orientation.

6.3 Use of Outside Speakers

The core SRE programme is delivered by the class teacher in all years. This approach makes the content appear ordinary and allows plenty of opportunity for pupils to come back to staff with any questions. Learners are encouraged to speak to the member of staff they feel most comfortable with; male or female.

However the school recognises the value of involving outside speakers within the SRE programme as appropriate. Where outside speakers are invited in to the school, they will be made aware of the contents of the school SRE policy prior to the visit in order to ensure consistent messages are delivered. If outside speakers are used to support the SRE programme, a member of staff will be present throughout.

6.4 Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Reports are made to parents through bi-annual parental consultations and written annual reports. The child's progress and overall approach to PSE will be reported, and a formal summative assessment made.

Examples of pupils PSE work will be collected throughout the year as evidence of their progress. Pupil's work as well as self evaluation sheets will be held in pupils' books.

7. Training

SMT will ensure that there is adequate training and resources for all staff involved in the delivery of the aims and objectives of the Sex and Relationships Education Policy.

8. Contact with Parents

Bryn Deva school believes that Sex and Relationships Education should be a shared responsibility. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation.

In promoting this objective we:

- Consult with parents via parents evening to provide an opportunity for the school's SRE policy and practice, including use of resources to be considered
- Take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about the policy or the arrangements for sex education in the school
- Encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy and making modifications to it as necessary
- Inform parents about the best practice known with regard to sex education, in order to ensure teaching in school supports key messages that parents/carers give to children at home
- The policy is made available

Parents/Carers right to withdraw

Section 405 of the Education Act 1996 enables parents to prevent their children, either wholly or partly, from receiving sex education in school other than Sex Education contained within the national curriculum, however at Bryn Deva school we only teach sex education through the curriculum.

Parents/carers must inform the school if they wish to exercise this right. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from SRE, they are welcome to make arrangements to see the Head teacher to identify which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. These arrangements are specified within the school Prospectus.

9. Child Protection

It may be necessary to invoke local Child Protection Procedures if a pupil's safety or welfare (or that of another pupil) is under threat. It would be only be in exceptional circumstances, e.g where there is a clear child protection issue, that sensitive information is passed on against a pupil's wishes, and even then the school will inform the pupil first and endeavour to explain why this needs to happen. These exceptions are defined by a moral or professional duty to act:

- Where there is Child Protection issues
- Where a life is in danger

10. Confidentiality

Teachers will not promise confidentiality. The boundaries of confidentiality will be made clear to pupils. If a pupil discloses information which is sensitive, not generally known, and which the pupil asks not to be passed on, it will be discussed with the head teacher. The request will be honoured unless this is unavoidable in order for teachers to fulfil their professional responsibilities in relation to:

- Child Protection
- Co-operation with a police investigation
- Referral to external service

Every effort will be made to secure the pupils agreement to the way in which the school intends to use any sensitive information.

Ground rules will be established prior to the delivery of the SRE programme in order to protect learners and teaching staff.

11. Equality

As an employer and provider of services Bryn Deva school will not unlawfully discriminate on grounds of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation,

marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or on the grounds of Welsh language.

All pupils, their parents and guardians, volunteers, staff and school governors are valued and will be treated with dignity and respect. The school will not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment or victimisation.

We will work across our school community to ensure our commitment to equality and fairness is shared and take steps to ensure that our school is accessible, welcoming and inclusive.

12. Implementation

At Bryn Deva school, Mrs L Smith is responsible for implementing the SRE programme.

The Head teacher and Governing Body have ultimate responsibility for the implementation of the SRE Policy. It is the responsibility of the Head teacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about the SRE 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.

Consideration will be given to ensure the complementary role of all school policies to the PSE curriculum, to ensure that the curriculum reflects the contents of the policy and the policy reinforces the curriculum:

Child withdrawal procedures
Bullying procedures

Child Protection procedures
Equality statement

13. Policy formation and Consultation Process

The Sex and Relationships Education Policy was developed in line with local and national guidance.

All governors were consulted in developing the policy and procedures.

14. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Sex and Relationships Education programme will be monitored and evaluated by the PSE coordinator in accordance with the annual self-evaluation process.

The following people will be consulted when the policy is reviewed:

- Pupils
- Staff
- Governors
- Parents/ Carers
- Health Professionals

Opportunities will be provided which will enable pupils to participate and evaluate what they have learnt according to their age, needs and ability.

Parents and carers will be invited to feedback their ideas for improvements.

15. References

Personal and Social Education Framework for 7 to 19-year-olds in Wales (2008)

Foundation Phase Framework for Children's Learning for 3 to 7-year-olds in Wales (2008)

Welsh Assembly Government Circular 019/2010: Sex and Relationships Education in schools

Guidance for Employees and Volunteers whose work brings them into contact with Children and Young People' Wrexham Safeguarding Children Board 2008

Appendix 1

Foundation Phase Framework for Children's Learning for 3 to 7 year olds in Wales (2008)

	Area of Learning: Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity
Personal development	<i>Children should be given opportunities to:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • become independent in their personal hygiene needs and to be more aware of personal safety • express and communicate different feelings and emotions – their own and those of others.
Social development	<i>Children should be given opportunities to:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be aware of and respect the needs of others • take responsibility for their own actions • consider the consequences of words and actions for themselves and others • develop an understanding of what is fair and unfair and to be willing to compromise • form relationships and feel confident to play and work cooperatively • value friends and families and show care and consideration • appreciate what makes a good friend.
Well-being	<i>Children should be given opportunities to:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • value and contribute to their own well-being and to the well-being of others • be aware of their own feelings and develop the ability to express them in an appropriate way • understand the relationship between feelings and actions and that other people have feelings • demonstrate care, respect and affection for other children, adults and their environment • ask for assistance when needed • develop an understanding about dangers in the home and outside environment.
Moral and Spiritual development	<i>Children should be given opportunities to:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • activities that allow them to communicate their ideas, values and beliefs about themselves, others and the world
	Area of Learning: Knowledge and Understanding of the World
Myself and other living things	<i>Children should be given opportunities to:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn the names and uses of the main external parts of the human body and plants • identify the similarities and differences between themselves and other children

Appendix 2

Personal and Social Education Framework for 7 to 19 year olds in Wales (2008)

Key Stage 2	<i>Learners should be given opportunities to:</i>
Health and emotional well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take increasing responsibility for keeping the mind and body safe and healthy • feel positive about themselves and be sensitive towards the feelings of others
	<i>and to understand:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the reasons for the physical and emotional changes which take place at puberty, to include conception, pregnancy and birth • the range of their own and others' feelings and emotions • the importance of personal safety • how to distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate touching what to do or to whom to go when feeling unsafe
Moral and spiritual development	<i>Learners should be given opportunities to:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore their personal value
	<i>and to understand:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how cultural values and religious beliefs shape the way people live • that people differ in what they believe is right and wrong • that personal actions have consequences

Science in the National Curriculum for Wales

Key Stage 2	<i>Pupils should be given opportunities to study:</i>
Interdependence of organisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the names, positions, functions and relative sizes of a human's main organs.