



SOHO PARISH PRIMARY POLICY

Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Most recent review	March 2020	Next review due	March 2022
Governor committee responsible	FGB	Written by	Rosie Malton

STATEMENT OF INTENT

At Soho Parish we believe every child deserves to live life to the full; *“I have come so that you may have life – life in all its fullness”* (John 10:10.) Our curriculum is designed to develop the whole child and therefore we believe that by giving children an age appropriate understanding of their own bodies and healthy relationships we are creating informed and confident children who are responsible members of their community.

1. AIMS OF THE POLICY

- To ensure all members of the school community including governors, teaching staff and parents have an understanding of what Sex and Relationship (SRE) Education is and why it is important
- To guarantee that all teachers are confident in delivering SRE lessons using the well-planned and well-resourced Christopher Winters scheme of work
- To ensure that the way in which teachers discuss Sex and Relationships with children at Soho Parish is honest, positive and consistent whilst also being appropriate for the age of the child
- To be transparent with parents about what is being taught and work in partnership with them to deliver an effective SRE curriculum
- To enable children at Soho Parish to talk openly and confidently about their bodies, sex and relationships without fear of misconceptions, embarrassment or judgment
- To ensure children feel safe and are able to keep themselves protected from harm

2. WHY TEACH SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION?

These are the four key reasons why we believe teaching SRE to children is important:

1. All children have the right to know about their bodies and how they function at an age appropriate level
2. Giving children the language and knowledge to talk about their bodies empowers them to safeguard themselves from harm
3. By opening up a conversation about different kinds of families and healthy and not healthy relationships children are taught to be accepting of others and given strategies for identifying and avoiding harmful situations
4. Teaching children about sex will help to identify and address any potentially dangerous or damaging misconceptions children might have about their bodies

3. SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM

*“Maintained schools are required to teach the national curriculum for science. At Key Stages 1 and 2 this includes teaching about the main external body parts and changes to the human body as it grows from birth to old age, including puberty. **There is no right to withdraw from the national curriculum.**”*

Sex Education appears twice in the National Curriculum as follows:

- Year 2 - children learn that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults. They should be introduced to the concepts of reproduction and growth, but not how reproduction occurs
- Year 5 - children are taught about the life cycles of humans and animals, including reproduction. They also learn about the changes that happen in humans from birth to old age. This includes learning what happens in puberty

Parents are not able to withdraw their children from any part of the National Curriculum.

The new compulsory Relationship Education curriculum introduced in September 2020 will cover themes including:

- Families (inc. different kinds of families) and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships (families and friends)
- Online relationships
- Being safe in relationships

You can read more about this in detail in our Relationship Education curriculum available on the website.

4. HOW DO WE TEACH SRE AT SOHO PARISH?

At Soho Parish we use The Christopher Winters SRE scheme of work to deliver all SRE lessons. A brief overview of lesson objectives and new vocabulary can be found in **Appendix 1**. As well as this, all lessons and resources are available to look at on the school website.

All resources used in SRE sessions, including photos, pictures, worksheets and videos are taken from the approved scheme.

SRE is taught three times a year (four in Year 6) in ALL year groups from Reception to Year 6.

All staff are trained to deliver SRE and deal with questions and misconceptions and are supported throughout the teaching process to ensure they teach accurately and confidently in line with the scheme of work. Teachers only use the lesson plans from the approved scheme of work and do not use any other resources, schemes of work or approaches to teaching the subject.

The Sex and Relationship Education Lead and the Senior Leadership Team will monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the SRE programme yearly.

5. ASSESSMENT

There is no formal means of assessing SRE at Soho Parish. However, teachers will use formative and self-assessment strategies in class to monitor the children’s understanding.

6. RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

As SRE is non-compulsory in Primary schools all parents have the right to withdraw their children from any sessions that focus on sex and/or puberty that are not part of The National Curriculum.

Parents are not able to withdraw their child from any of the sessions that discuss aspects of relationships only.

Parents will be notified a half term before SRE sessions take place and any request to withdraw a child will need to be discussed with the Head Teacher prior to its possible approval.

7. SAFEGUARDING AND SRE

We seek to be sensitive and non-judgmental in our delivery of SRE and are aware that, in exceptional circumstances, SRE sessions may lead to a child disclosing sensitive information. All staff have received yearly Safeguarding training and are equipped to deal with any such disclosures in line with the schools Safeguarding policy.

8. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY PARTIES

8.1 Governors

- Governors will approve this policy and the Christopher Winters scheme of work
- They will make sure that they are up to date with current legislation regarding SRE in schools and the way in which it is taught at Soho Parish

8.2 Senior Leadership Team

- Members of the Senior Leadership Team will monitor the delivery of SRE sessions along with the Subject Lead
- They will ensure they are familiar with the SRE scheme of work
- The Head Teacher, or if she is unavailable, the Deputy Head, will meet with any parent wanting to withdraw their child and ascertain the reasons for the desired withdraw and make sure parents are aware of what their child will miss out on

8.3 Subject Leader

- The Subject Leader will ensure all staff are adequately trained to deliver SRE lessons and deal with any misconceptions or questions
- They will be available to deliver or team teach sessions with any teachers who require or ask for further support
- They will observe SRE lessons to ensure that they are being taught well and that teachers are following the scheme of work accurately
- They will monitor the learning, thoughts and feelings of children in relation to SRE at Soho Parish
- They will ensure that parents are made fully aware of what is being taught and will accompany members of SLT in withdrawal meetings with parents where appropriate

8.4 Teaching Staff

- All teaching staff will spend time making themselves familiar with the SRE scheme of work

- They will ensure that they abide by the 2010 Equalities Act and show respect and tolerance to everyone during SRE sessions
- They will attend yearly training on SRE
- All teachers will ensure they teach SRE lessons according to the approved plans
- They will ask for help or guidance when needed from the Subject Lead
- They will properly report any disclosures made during SRE sessions
- They will inform parents of any questions or misconceptions that arise during SRE sessions that they did not feel able to address for whatever reason and direct parents to the Subject Lead for further support if required
- They will make sure that any child who misses a session due to absence will have the chance to catch up on any missed content at a later date
- They will discuss with parents of SEN children (potentially with the SEN Lead also present) extra support offered to them and their child before, during and after SRE sessions if required

8.5 Parents

- Parents will attend the yearly SRE Meeting for Parents to find out about any updates or changes to the policy or curriculum
- They will write a formal letter to the Head Teacher if they wish to withdraw their child from SRE and will subsequently attend a meeting before this potential withdrawal is approved
- They will ask their child's teacher or the Subject Lead for more information or guidance if they feel like their child is in need of it