



Kington St. Michael CE Primary School

Puberty, Development and Relationships Policy

Rationale

The aim of this policy is to ensure that the children of KSM school grow up being able to understand themselves, and the stages of development, so that they can develop happy, stable and caring relationships.

The children should be able to:-

- Combat ignorance and increase understanding
- Reduce guilt and anxiety
- Promote responsible behaviour
- Combat exploitation
- Promote the ability to make informed decisions
- Facilitate communication on sexual matters
- Develop education skills for future parents

Although a separate policy, this forms part of the Personal, Social & Health Education Policy.

What is Puberty, Development and Relationships education?

The Department for Education and Employment recommends that all primary schools should have a Puberty, Development and Relationships education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the children. It should ensure that both boys and girls know about puberty and how a baby is born – as set out in Key Stages 1 and 2 of the national science curriculum.

The objective of Puberty, Development and Relationships education is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. It is essential if young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity – this would be inappropriate teaching.

The following areas will be covered by each year group:

Foundation Stage 2 to Year 4

No specific teaching on the process of reproduction will begin, but through PSHE, and topic work, the children will encounter aspects of how they grow up and things that they need to make them happy and well. Hygiene and healthy bodies are covered in this phase.

Year 5 and 6

From Term 3, the Year 5 and 6 children will start a programme in conjunction with the school nursing service. The children will see two videos “Some of our bits ain’t nice” which deals with the changes in their bodies and stresses the need for healthy eating, exercise and being clean. The second video is called “Growing Up” and deals with the physical aspects of children moving from child, to puberty and adulthood. The programme is run over 2 sessions by the School Nurse. Further sessions are run by the class teacher.

In each session the children have work sheets and a variety of follow up activities. In the second session, the nurse answers questions in an anonymous question box but uses her discretion on which questions are answered. If she is in doubt, then she refers to the teacher. The importance of family life is stressed, but sensitivity is exercised in that there are a growing proportion of children that are living in single parent homes.

Schemes of Work for Puberty, Development and Relationships

Outlined below are the content areas that will be covered.

Foundation Stage 2 & Y1

- growing up, me, animals, plants and caring for young
- how my body works
- families
- healthy eating
- making friends
- keeping safe, saying no to strangers
- my moods, happy, sad
- beginning life, me, animals
- loss and mourning, person, animal

Year 2

- different types of families
- feelings, love, jealousy
- what makes me happy
- what I like and don't like
- keeping safe
- caring, hygiene, sleep, exercise
- inside my body

Years 3 & 4

- feelings, happy, sad, embarrassed, scared
- difficult situations, teasing, bullying
- changes in my body
- family trees
- keeping healthy
- friendship
- making decisions
- keeping safe, e.g. say no to strangers
- varied lifestyles

Year 5 and 6

- decision making
- risk taking
- feelings, future, changing schools
- families, how they behave
- celebrations, birth, christening, puberty, marriage, death, divorce
- differences between people
- friendships and relationships
- sexuality
- body changes
- things that help our bodies, e.g. food, some drugs
- things that harm our bodies, e.g. drugs, cigarettes, poisons.

Partnership with parents

The school recognises the important role parents play in this and aim to work with parents to achieve this. The school welcomes parents' questions on how this area of education is delivered and recognises the right that parents can withdraw their children from all, or part, of

the Puberty, Development and Relationships education provided at school, except those parts included in the statutory national curriculum. No pressure is put on the parent to change their mind, but parents are encouraged to find out more about the programme. To this end we organise a meeting for parents prior to the formal programme starting with a viewing of any video material used with the children.

Information will be given to parents within newsletters and specific class letters when formal Puberty, Development and Relationships will be taking place for Y5 and 6.

Role of the teacher in the programme

Teachers and all those contributing to Puberty, Development and Relationships education are expected to work within the guidelines of the policy. The personal beliefs and attitudes of the teacher will not influence the teaching of Puberty, Development and Relationships education within the PSHE policy.

Teachers will be expected to answer questions honestly and recognise the appropriateness of the question in regard to the age of the child and, may decide not to answer the question.

Role of outside agencies

Health professionals (for example, the school nurse) who are involved in delivering programmes are expected to work within the school's Puberty, Development and Relationships education policy and on the instructions of the head teacher. However, when they are in their professional role, such as a school nurse in a consultation with an individual pupil, they should follow their own professional codes of conduct.

Inappropriate behaviour or language

If the class teacher becomes aware of this, he/she will deal with it on an individual basis, discussing the situation with parents and the Headteacher, if it is appropriate.

Roles and responsibilities

This policy has been developed through consultation between staff and between the subject leader, head teacher, governing body and parents. The head teacher and subject leader monitor and evaluate the work achieved by the children in this area. The subject leader identifies areas for development, resource needs and helps in the moderation of standards across the school. The subject leader works with the Staffing and Curriculum Governor Committee so that they are aware of such issues. The committee will keep the governing body informed about developments in this area.

Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of the achievements made in this area of the curriculum is carried out through the guidelines on monitoring and evaluation. These set out how the head teacher and subject leader use a range of strategies to assess the quality of achievements. The class teachers, however, have a key role in monitoring and evaluation of their work and that of the children in their class. The Headteacher works with the governing body to inform them about the work carried out within the school.

Equal Opportunities

All children, regardless of gender, racial group and ability, will have equal access to the Puberty, Development and Relationships curriculum.

Policy Approved by: _____S+C Committee_____

Policy Approval Date: _____March 2017_____

Policy Review Date: _____March 2020_____