



# Sex Education Policy

**Issued:** November 2014

**Date of Review:** November 2016

**Headteacher:** Russell Leigh \_\_\_\_\_

**Chair of Governors:** Duncan Lochhead \_\_\_\_\_

At Dorchester, St Birinus C of E Primary School our policy on sex and relationship education is based on the DfES document 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' (DfES0116/2000).

In the DfES document, sex education is defined as 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development'. The guidance states, 'It is about understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex and sexual health'.

Sex education is an umbrella term for all the teaching and learning we offer pupils to understand their own and others' sexuality, to develop skills for relationships, informed decision making and is part of the Science Curriculum.

At Dorchester, St Birinus C of E Primary School we believe that sex education is the entitlement of each child and we are committed to deliver it within the context of a broad and balanced programme of health education.

### **Aims**

At Dorchester, St Birinus C of E Primary School we aim to:

- Ensure that sex education is integrated into the curriculum and not isolated, taken out of context or over-emphasised in any way;
- Foster self-esteem and respect for others as the cornerstone of good health education and of therefore good sex education;
- Nurture a partnership between caring adults- governors, teachers, teaching assistants and parents- to ensure sensitive support for children and young people as they grow and mature;
- Ensure children have the ability to accept their own and others' sexuality;
- Encourage children to enjoy relationships based upon mutual trust and respect, free from any abuse;
- Generate and atmosphere where questions and discussion on sexual matters can take place without embarrassment;

### **Teaching and Learning:**

Effective teaching of sex education will increase pupils' knowledge of:

- Body knowledge;
- Human growth and development;
- Families, parenting and life cycles;
- Safety and child protection;
- Moral questions;
- Relationship issues;
- Sexual abuse, and what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters.

It will enable pupils to:

- Improve self-esteem;
- Make informed decisions and choices;
- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility;
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others;
- Maintain and develop relationships;
- Develop self-confidence;
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations;
- Develop the motivation to succeed.

Within the taught and hidden curriculum, i.e. the whole school environment, pupils should be given frequent and regular opportunities to work on feelings and to practice personal and interpersonal skills. We value and respect the learning that occurs in the community and in the home believing that these, alongside school links, are essential dimensions of sex education. It is important to involve, whenever possible, and certainly to inform parents about the sex education programme within the curriculum.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from receiving sex education at school.

**Additional information:**

- For further guidance see Sex and Relationship Education Guidance at <http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DfES+0116+2000&>
- Information regarding safeguarding can be found at [http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/portal/insite/news?WCM\\_GLOBAL\\_CONTEXT=http://apps.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/Insite%2FDirectorates%2FChildren%2C+Young+People+%26+Families%2FOur+services%2FSafeguarding+and+child+protection%2F](http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/portal/insite/news?WCM_GLOBAL_CONTEXT=http://apps.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/Insite%2FDirectorates%2FChildren%2C+Young+People+%26+Families%2FOur+services%2FSafeguarding+and+child+protection%2F)
- The school nurse continues to offer support and guidance on any health issues including sex education.