



SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY FOR RUSH COMMON SCHOOL

Introduction

In this policy as in all documents of Rush Common Academy Trust (“RCAT”) any reference to Governors of Rush Common School or Trustees of Rush Common Academy Trust is a reference to the Board of Directors of Rush Common Academy Trust and any reference to the Headteacher of Rush Common School is a reference to the Chief Executive Officer of RCAT.

Rush Common School aims to provide a stimulating and caring environment in which each child may experience high standards of education and preparation for the future, working in partnership with parents/carers and the local community.

The Head of Pupil Welfare and Support will assist in the development of the School’s policy concerning the welfare and educational needs of all children at Rush Common School. Advice will be taken from all appropriate sources and, where necessary, the policy will be adapted to meet each child’s needs as an individual. Safeguarding procedures will be followed.

The Policy will be sensitive towards the established morals and values framework of all major world religions and philosophies and will be complimentary with the Religious Education Policy of the School. All pupils regardless of age, ability, sex or race will have the same opportunities to benefit from the sex education programme.

Definition

According to the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfE 0116/2000), SRE is ‘*lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of loving and caring relationships.*’

Aims and Objectives

- To reassure children of their value and self-worth including aspects of dignity, self-respect and self-restraint.
- To nurture a responsible attitude towards personal relationships including aspects of mutual respect and care and to develop sensitivity towards the needs of others encompassing fidelity and loyalty.
- To provide knowledge of loving relationships.
- To provide knowledge of human reproductive processes.

- To inform children on matters of personal hygiene and related health issues.
- To encourage exploration of values and moral issues taking into account physical and moral risks associated with certain behaviour.
- To educate against discrimination and prejudice.
- To empower children to make informed choices about sex.

Content Outline

1. Directors and teaching staff will take particular care to ensure that the aspects of the topics covered will be appropriate to the needs and ages of the pupils, within the context of moral considerations and the value of family life.

Family life	Information about family patterns to include single parents, extended families, gay parents and different religious and cultural backgrounds
The human body	Biological information including that about sexual organs and sexual responses
Reproduction	Conception, pregnancy, birth, childcare and parenthood
Human development	Childhood and ageing, puberty and adulthood, menstruation and menopause (to include hygiene)
Risks	Unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, information on how to resist unwanted sexual advances

Organisation

2. The subject will be taught in a cross-curricular way, as and when the subject arises through normal topic work, encompassing both the National Curriculum for Science, RE and PSHE programmes of study and the content as described above.
3. It is not envisaged that there will be isolated lessons other than those where a health professional is invited to address the children. All visiting health professionals will only be involved in the implementation of the Policy after consultation concerning content and method of teaching. The class teacher will remain in the lesson throughout.
4. Sex education will be taught in mixed sex classes however; there may be occasions where single gender groups are more appropriate and relevant.
5. Children will know that they are free to question further and discuss issues with their own or another teacher.
6. Teachers will not enter into discussions about personal issues and lifestyles.
7. Year 6 class teachers will teach the factual content.

8. All staff members will answer children's direct questions in an open and factual way.

Children with Special Educational Needs

9. Teaching and resources will be differentiated as appropriate to address the needs of these children in order for them to have full access to the content of sex and relationship education.

Parent Consultation

10. The Policy is shared on the School website and full details are available on request. The School informs parents/carers when aspects of the sex and relationship programme are taught and parents/carers are welcome to view any resources to be used by asking the class teacher.
11. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from those aspects of sex and relationship education, not included in the Science National Curriculum. Parents/carers may request a meeting with the Headteacher to discuss any concerns. In the event of a child being withdrawn from a lesson that child will remain in school and will be assigned to another class until the sex education lesson is over.

'If the parent of any pupil in attendance at a maintained school requests that he may be wholly or partly excused from receiving sex education at the school, the pupil shall, except so far as such education is comprised in the National Curriculum, be so excused accordingly until the request is withdrawn.' Education Act 1996 (Section 405)

Safeguarding / Confidentiality

12. Teachers are aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue.
13. The staff member will inform the Headteacher/Designated Child Protection person in line with the School's procedure for child protection.
14. A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if concerns exist.

Complaints

15. Any cause for concern should be discussed as quickly as possible with the class teacher or the Headteacher. In the unlikely event that the concern cannot be dealt with, the Chair of the Board of Directors can be contacted.

Review of this policy

The Board of Directors, through its Pupil Support and Welfare Committee, review the Policy every three years. It may however review the Policy earlier than this if the government produces new regulations, or if it receives recommendations on how the Policy might be improved.

Approved by the Pupil Support and Welfare Committee of the Board of Directors of RCAT on 9 June 2015

Signed: A Lane (Chair of Board of Directors)

Signed: L Youngman (Headteacher)

Date for Review: May 2018