

COLLEGE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEX EDUCATION POLICY

It is felt that the most effective time to deliver discrete sex education is in Years 5 & 6 within a thematic context e.g. growth or change. The parents of these children will be consulted before the topic is introduced to the classes and their comments used to affect change where appropriate. Children other than in Ys 5 & 6 may ask questions of a sexual nature; these will be dealt with sensitively and appropriately, and in line with our PSHE policy.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF SCHOOL SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Many of the children in our school are exposed to television programmes and videos which include scenes of a sexual nature. As a result we consider it to be important that children are accurately informed of the facts of life at primary school age. In addition several children have started maturing physically during Years 5 and 6 and unless children are reassured about what is happening to their bodies in a sensitive and factual manner this can be terrifying.

The aims of the school include preparing our children for later life and developing their confidence. We believe that providing sex education is in accordance with those aims.

MORAL AND VALUES FRAMEWORK

The presentation of sex in some publications, on television and on video frequently lacks a moral framework. In school we intend to adjust the balance by emphasising the importance of the emotional aspects of sex and its significance for the people involved. We consider the materials we use confirm this message.

Content: Puberty, menstruation, sexual intercourse, and pregnancy.

PRACTICE

- ◆ Parents consulted (see attached letter).
 - ◆ Each programme of learning will be addressed separately followed by the opportunity for children to discuss and question the content of the programme.
- ◆ At the end of the series children will be split in to groups according to gender and be given an opportunity to discuss and question further with an adult of the same gender. The school nurse will be invited to speak to the children, both in mixed and single gender meetings.

- ◆ The adults concerned will monitor the effectiveness of the policy by assessing the contents of discussion and questioning and by parent consent.
- ◆ It will be explained to the children that if they have concerns or questions and are worried about expressing these to their class teacher that they may speak to another member of staff.
- ◆ All staff will be offered the opportunity to see the video used for the lessons.

SPECIFIC ISSUES

CONTRACEPTION

Children will be informed that contraceptives devices do exist.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Children need to know that they can trust the adult to whom they speak to keep information confidential. However, should a child disclose information which indicates that there is reason for concern, the Headteacher will be informed and take appropriate action according to the guidance outlined by Child Protection.

CHILD WITHDRAWAL

Any parent who wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education may do so and the child will be provided with alternative work.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

We would hope that parent consultation would answer parents' concerns. However, any complaint will be referred to the Governing Body should be Headteacher be unable to satisfy it.

HIV

HIV will be taught within the context of health education. It is anticipated that pupils may raise questions about HIV in relation to sex and these will be answered and the importance of practising safe sex stressed. However we feel it is important that there is not too much emphasis placed on this subject within the context of sex education because some children may gain a distorted picture of sex.