

Sex Relationship Education (SRE)

Definition of SRE:

SRE Guidance (DfES 2000) provides the following definition:

"It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity - this would be inappropriate teaching."

SRE has three main elements:

(i) Attitudes and values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
- learning the value of family life, marriage, and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
- learning the value of respect, love and care;
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas; and
- developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.

(ii) Personal and social skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
- developing self-respect and empathy for others;
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice;
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- managing conflict; and
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

(iii) Knowledge and understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships;
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services;
- learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay; and
- the avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

Who is Responsible for Providing SRE?

Governors working with SMT take responsibility for meeting statutory requirements in SRE. The teaching of SRE will be provided by class teachers within the context of trusted relationships and the teaching for learning in SRE will be monitored and evaluated by the Healthy Schools and PSHE leader, Mrs D Byles. This will then be fed back to the SRE Governor.

How is SRE taught?

SRE is an important related aspect and our school Policy on SRE has been developed in line with Essex Guidelines and is informed by the DFES requirements and is included herein.

Parents' Right to Withdraw their Children

Parents will be informed of SRE sessions on the school website where the PSHE including RSE curriculum is published. Parents will therefore see the planned programme of learning for SRE on offer before it is taught to the children. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of SRE sessions, except those elements taught as part of the National Curriculum Science. Any parent wishing to discuss this aspect of the curriculum in more detail should contact the Head teacher.