



DIOCESE OF CHESTER

**ASTBURY ST MARY'S  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

# Sex and Relationship Education Policy

June 2016

The context of the sex education teaching in Astbury School is based on the Channel 4 programmes, All about us: Living and Growing - alternative

The governors, who are responsible for this policy, have viewed the DVDs and have looked at the teaching publications associated with the Channel 4 television series. They feel that the material is very direct, but appropriate. Parents and carers are given access to the publications/DVD so that they can make an informed decision about their child taking part in this aspect of the school's curriculum.

Both staff and governors felt strongly that sex education should be taught to children throughout their school life, and that it should be taught wherever possible within the context of PSHE – physical, social, health education and SMSC – spiritual, moral social and cultural education, rather than through science lessons. Sex education is not just about reproduction and sexual health but must also strive to teach children to act responsibly, making and maintaining relationships with others to feel good about themselves and the choices they make, and to develop assertiveness skills and the ability to respect themselves and others in the context of their own sexual development while taking account of sexuality, gender rules and the responsibility.

The teaching of sex education in this Christian school will promote core Christian values – tolerance, respect, personal responsibility, fairness, co-operation and consideration for other people.

### **Delivery of Sex and Relationships Education is:-**

- Within the context of social, moral and spiritual development
- Addressed occasionally in collective worship
- Through visitors, as appropriate (parents, health or religious professionals, older/younger siblings)
- Through the use of stories, DVDs, discussion and debate and other age appropriate resources

### **Teaching Methods**

SRE is learning about our bodies, our health and our relationships. It will be taught gradually, based on factually accurate information. SRE will be set in the context of clear values, including the sensitivity of family life, marriage and of loving relationships in bringing up children. It will teach children to develop values, attitudes, personal and social skills and increase their knowledge and understanding to make informed decisions and life choices. SRE will be factually accurate, evidence based and age appropriate. It will be sensitive to faith and cultural perspectives, promote equality, inclusion and acceptance of diversity. Our SRE curriculum will promote strong and stable relationships and provide children with a clear sense of rights and responsibilities. School has a clear role in giving our children accurate information and helping them to develop the skills they need to make safe and responsible choices. Our approach to SRE will include sensitive, honest and balanced consideration of sexuality. Individual plans for children with special educational needs will be considered when teaching SRE.

We will work in partnership with parents/carers, value their views and keep them informed about SRE provision. Children will be actively involved in discussions and their contributions valued. Their privacy will be respected, as will that of their families. Children will be taught in single gender groups when relevant, or if requested by the children.

## **Questions**

Sometimes an individual child will ask a question in the classroom. Questions do not always have to be answered immediately, and can be addressed later with the individual. Teachers will use their own skill and discretion in these situations.

## **Who will teach it?**

All members of staff – teachers, classroom assistants and the headteacher are committed to delivering sex and relationships education.

## **Confidentiality**

As a general rule, teachers will maintain a child's confidentiality. If a teacher believes that a child is at risk or in danger, they will talk to the headteacher before any decision is made concerning actions to be taken.

The school has a safeguarding policy and procedure based on Cheshire East County Guidelines.

## **Working with parents / carers**

Parents and carers' views are valued and respected. Their opinions on any aspect of this policy are welcome. Parents may request to read or view the teaching programmes we intend to use.

Under the Education Act 1993 pupils can be withdrawn, by their parents / carers from parts of sex education that is outside the compulsory elements of sex education contained in the National Curriculum for Science. Please speak to the head teacher if you wish to do so.

## **Astbury C. E. School**

“Sex is a powerful fact of human existence and a gift of God in creation. Used rightly, sex can lead to a positive sense of personal identity and value. The Church proclaims the ideal of true sexual fulfilment between a man and a woman in Christian marriage, which requires maturity, self-discipline and a will to work for the other person and the resisting of exploitation. It can also bring great joy and intimacy.

Sex and relationship education makes a positive contribution to the growing maturity of young people when it places sex within a Christian context of love, faithfulness and forgiveness. In this context, pupils can develop an increasing awareness of their individual and social responsibility and safety for themselves and also for those whom they love and with whom they live and work.”

National Society for Promoting Religious Education PSHEE webpage

Astbury is a Christian school in which the teaching is based on Christian values. The staff and governors feel that this policy upholds those values. Staff ensure that all teaching of sex and relationships education reflects this.