

This sets out to promote pupils' self-esteem, emotional development and resourcefulness and will help children to form and maintain satisfying relationships. This begins a lifelong process of relationships and feelings, acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex and sexuality. It should help young people to learn to respect themselves and others and to move with confidence from childhood, through adolescence and into adulthood.

At Berkswich, we believe that Effective Sex & Relationships Education is

- Integral to the PSHE and Science curriculum and is delivered as part of that curriculum.
- Provided early: before puberty, before feelings of sexual attraction and before young people develop sexual relationships.
- Taught together within class groups, although children may be separated as and when appropriate.
- The entitlement of each child in school.
- Taught with great sensitivity & provides opportunity for children to reflect, ask questions and to discuss their views on this vital aspect of life & learning.
- Offers a positive and open view of sex and sexuality and supports sexual self-acceptance.

Teaching of SRE

The PSHE Association Programme of Study for personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education has three strands — health & wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world. Schools are expected to cover all three but it will mandatory for all schools to deliver health education and relationships and sex education (or 'relationship education' in primaries) by 2020. - PSHE association February 2019

There are three core aspects of SRE

1. A child's understanding of attitudes and values – These are based on Berkswich's school values and within the Christian context of our school. This includes learning about love, respect and care in stable loving relationships as well as the value of family life and marriage within different family makeups for the nurture of children.

2. Understanding Personal and Social Skills – These skills are an everyday part of life at Berkswich. Children learn to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively; making choices and understanding differences and without prejudice. It includes being aware of and recognising the dangers of child sexual exploitation (Upper KS2) and taking sensible and firm action to avoid this. This includes following online safety rules (Nursery – KS2), discussions about social media (KS2) and chat rooms (KS1 and KS2) and reporting intrusive responses both online and to an adult (Nursery – KS2).

3. Gaining Knowledge and Understanding – Throughout Berkswich, the children learn and understand physical development at appropriate stages through science and PSHE lessons. Berkswich follows the 'We've Got it Covered' (PSHE Association, Feb, 2019) objectives for SRE and these are incorporated within the PSHE objectives.

As part of this work, we cover the various 'life processes' for both animals & humans, but will focus on relationships, healthy living & growing up. Learning about emotions and different relationships happens throughout the school during PSHE, collective worship and through different topics. Understanding human sexuality and reproduction (Upper KS2) is learned in science lessons; including information about sexual health and babies being born in different ways such as IVF.

Delivery

SRE will be delivered through the following means:

- Science and PSHE lessons
- Circle time
- Story time
- Discreet lessons focused on an SRE topic

Assessment within PSHE

Children are informally assessed by staff throughout their work and communication with parents will reflect this.

The very nature of SRE means that careful consideration should be given to the best means of recording. Written work may not always be appropriate and staff will use their professional judgment in this.

RSE and PSHE

Berkswich Church of England Primary School will deliver these areas in accordance with the 'We've Got It Covered' document (PSHE Association, February 2019).

When delivering these sensitive areas, teaching staff will consider the age, cohort and maturity of the children. The PSHE lead and SLT will train the teaching staff in these areas before they deliver the content to the children. As a school, we will follow the PSHE Association's advice for 'Handling Complex Issues Safely in the PSHE Classroom' (PSHE Association, 2019).

SEND

In accordance with the 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' document, Berkswich makes SRE lessons accessible for all learners. Accessibility is ensured through differentiated and personalised teaching. Berkswich is mindful of the SEND code of practice, focusing on 'Preparing for Adulthood' when teaching SRE those with SEND.

Berkswich is also aware that some pupils are more vulnerable to exploitation, bullying and other issues due to the nature of their SEND. Relationships Education and RSE can also be particularly important subjects for some pupils; for example, those with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs or learning disabilities. These factors are considered when designing and teaching these subjects at Berkswich.

Teaching SRE

Teaching staff will receive suitable training, when available, to ensure they are able to deliver sex and relationships lessons effectively. Teachers are provided copies of 'We've Got It Covered' and 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' to support their teaching. When unsure, teachers are expected to seek guidance from the PSHE lead or SLT. If unsure, they must speak with the PSHE or SLT before teaching the lesson.

However, teachers should use their own discretion in when responding to children's questioning.

Classes should be taught SRE as a whole, though at Year 6 teachers may, where appropriate, split the group according to gender to discuss issues relating to puberty and sex; however, this is not always the case.

Sensitive Issues

During lessons, sensitive issues could be raised by pupils. Parents and others should be reassured that the personal beliefs and attitudes of a teacher do not influence the teaching of SRE. These issues concerned may include contraception, abortion, safe sex, HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, sexual identity or orientation, homophobic bullying and different families. It is important to acknowledge that pupils may hear these terms through different sources such as the media, and need to feel able to ask for further information. The staff member will answer appropriately for the child's age and maturity. Questions will always be treated with respect and with a caring response. Staff and other adults will always be sensitive to underlying problems, which may be worrying a child. Staff must ensure they are sensitive in their response, ensure the context is appropriate, know the question is relevant to the content of the lesson and know that the group is ready (in maturity and age). If staff are unsure, they can read 'Handling Complex Issues Safely in the PSHE Classroom' (PSHE Association, June, 2019)

Responses could include

- We are not learning about this in Year ...
- You may ask your Mum / Dad / carer when you get home.
- You will learn more about this in Year .. (if known)

If staff have a concern, then parents should be contacted.

Working with parents/carers and the wider community

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or any part of sex education, but not from the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction provided under the National Curriculum for science.

During transition time into the next year, teachers will highlight areas that will be taught during the following year. Regarding SRE, parents can ask the class teacher about when and what will be taught to their child. Parents can ask the class teacher for support when managing conversations about SRE.

Policy into Practice Documents

Berkswich Primary School will use the following statutory guidance and advice the teaching and learning of SRE.

- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/781150/Draft_guidance_Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education2.pdf
- We've Got it Covered
<https://healthyschoolscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Mapping-PoS-to-Statutory-guidance-July-2019-update.pdf>

- SEND Code of Practise

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf)

- Keeping Children Safe in Education

Until September 2022

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1021914/KCSIE 2021 September guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1021914/KCSIE_2021_September_guidance.pdf)

From September 2022

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1080047/KCSIE 2022 revised.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1080047/KCSIE_2022_revised.pdf)