BLACKAWTON PRIMARY SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

Consultation with our School Community

EDUCATION SOUTH WEST

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS
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Blackawton Primary School
Opening doors to a world of possibilities

New Guidance

- 20 years since the last review of the curriculum- the world (and how we interact with each other) has changed
- New- Relationships Education in Primary Schools
- Previous recommendations for teaching Personal, Social, Health
  - Education, are now part of the National Curriculum.
- Sex Education in Primary Schools remains optional, though in Year 5 & 6 the science curriculum form part of what might be considered as sex education- puberty and reproduction.

SCIENCE CURRICULUM

As part of the Science curriculum we teach the following statutory objectives that build understanding about growth and reproduction:

Year One
Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

Year Two
Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults they should not be expected to understand how reproduction occurs.

Year Five and Year Six
Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. They should learn about the changes experienced in puberty

Where and how did you learn about sex and relationships? For young people, their learning comes from…

Mobile phones

TV

Internet

School

Friends & Older Siblings

Parents & Carers

Why is Relationships and Sex Education important?

- Entitlement
- Puberty is starting earlier- for some children by age 9
- Unwanted conceptions
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Safeguarding
  - Grooming
  - Child Sexual Exploitation
  - Abuse
  - Sexting
  - Online pornography

What is effective Relationships &Sex Education (SRE)?

- Age appropriate
- Based on needs of pupil (see later slides)
- Progressive
- Inclusive
- Delivered by trained staff in a safe environment
- Prepares children adequately for puberty in a timely way
- Prepares children for adult life
- Promotes positive relationships

Does it work? What's the evidence?

Those receiving good quality RSE are more likely to:

- Delay their first sexual experience
- Use condoms for contraception
- Have fewer sexual partners

Kirby 2007

Ofsted review of existing RSE nationally

- Required improved in over a third of schools was not systematic enough
- Children were not adequately prepared for puberty
- In Primary Schools, too much emphasis was placed on friendships and relationships

Your rights as a parent:

- To be informed of the RSE curriculum and policy
- To be consulted about changes to these
- To withdraw your child from Sex education lessons (that are outside of/ additional to the Science National Curriculum

Finding out from children about what they already know/ need to know about Relationships and Sex :

- What do they need to know now? (What they view as age appropriate)
- What do they need to know at the age of 13?

In addition they were asked:
'Tell me about this picture….'

What did children say?

What children feel they need to know about now:

Year 2:

- Mainly about rules and keeping safe

Year 4:

- Body changes- growing bigger, voice changes, marriage and dating (though dating wouldn't start until secondary school

Year 6:

- Hormones, body changes, relationships with family and friends, gender and sexuality; gender stereotypes

What did children say they needed to know later?

Year 2:

- Internet safety
- Stranger danger
- Knives

Year 4:

- Bullying
- Internet safety,
- Having babies
- Periods and hair growing under armpits

Year 6:

- How <u>not</u> to have a baby

Where did children think the baby had come from?

Year 2:	Year 4:	Year 6:
It has come from Scotland It was found on a doorstep A shop A seed from daddy A seed from a plant God Staying in bed Telepathy	• You eat a seed • God • A man and a girl do a thingamajig • I'm not saying! • Sperm like a tadpole • Confusion about how a woman could be pregnant without a man	• Lots of giggling • … more giggling! • Sperm, Testicles • Womb • Egg

How does the baby get out?

Year 2:

- Push it out
- Belly button
- Out of your private bits
- The pelvis
- Hospital

Year 4:

- Their bottom
- Their tummy
- Go to hospital and sit in a chair and push
- It comes out of their tummy
- They have to cut the belly open

Year 6:

- You know you are in labour because water comes out
- Vagina
- If something is wrong cut open her belly

Other observations:

- Giggles/ embarrassment (Year6)
- Struggle to name body parts
- Some talked to parents/ carers
- Use of gay seen as an insult
- Gender stereotypes
- Wanted more RSE than they had had (Y6)
- Wanted Teachers to deliver the learning (Y6)

Recommendations for Changes/ Schools:

- Introduce children to the correct scientific terms to describe body parts in Key Stage 1
- Challenge the use of 'gay' as an insult and include work around the makeup of different families
- Explore/ challenge gender roles/ sterotypes
- Begin to explore puberty changes by the age of 8/9
- Deliver RSE in a progressive way across the school
- Ensure that children in Year 5 and 6 receive RSE input around puberty so that they are prepared as soon as possible for the onset of puberty
- For some sessions on Sex Education consider single gender sessions

Summary

- Parents have the right to withdraw children from Sex Education lessons at Primary School that go **beyond** the content in the Science National Curriculum.
- Topics covered related and linked to the Science Curriculum are statutory and not optional to teach. This is as follows:
    - In Key Stage 1, children learn that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults. They should be introduced to the concepts of reproduction and growth but not how reproduction occurs.
    - In Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5/6), children are taught about the life cycles of humans and animals, including reproduction. They also learn about the change that happen in humans from birth to old age. This includes learning about what happens in puberty.
- School's have the right and obligation to teach RSE topic to prepare children for life when they leave school.
- The curriculum on Relationships and Sex Education should complement, and be supported by, the school's wider policies on Behaviour, bullying and safeguarding (PSEH; E-Safety, Relationships etc).

Next Steps:

- Please look at the materials on the school website:
- Please respond to the survey:

We are particularly interested in your views about when to tackle different concepts and any areas you might like further support with at home.
I am aware that there will be differences of opinion, but we will take your views into account when we finalise our policy and curriculum plan.
We will share this with you later in the summer term.