

# AUDLEM ST JAMES CE PRIMARY SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

Consultation with our School Community



# 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 forms 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:

## **Key Stage 1 (years 1-2)**

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

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

To find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air).

To describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

# SCIENCE CURRICULUM

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

## **Key Stage 2 (year 3-6)**

To identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat

To identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement

To describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans

To identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions

To describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animal

To describe the changes as humans develop to old age

To identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood

To recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function

To describe the way nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans

To recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

# 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
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# 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
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- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, located in the lower right quadrant of the slide.

## 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

Some schools have consulted with their children using these questions. The results have helped form their curriculum. We are currently not in a position to have these discussions with our pupils in a way we would prefer, so, instead, we have made available to you the findings from these questions and have also made available to you research from The Sex Education Forum which is attached to our website.



# Recommendations for changes in 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/ stereotypes
- 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 which are 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.
- Schools 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.