



Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Statement of intent

At Churnet View Middle School, we understand the importance of educating pupils about sex and relationships, in order for pupils to make responsible and well-informed decisions in their lives.

The DfE's guidance, 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance', defines this programme as: "Learning about physical, moral and emotional development; understanding 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 health."

The programme will be taught objectively and does not intend to promote any form of sexual orientation.

Aims and objectives

The sex education and relationship programme is an opportunity for pupils to:

- Develop an understanding of sex, sexuality and relationships.
- Develop a range of appropriate personal skills.
- The aims will be achieved through developing an understanding of:
 - A range of values and moral issues including the importance of family life.
 - The biological facts related to human growth and development, including reproduction.
 - The importance of healthy relationships.

Legislation

This policy will be compliant with the following guidance:

- DfE 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' 2000
- DfE 'Science programmes of study: key stages 1 and 2' 2013
- DfE 'Science programmes of study: key stage 3' 2013

Organisation of the programme

The sex and relationship education programme will be developed in conjunction with the views of teachers, pupils and parents by the PSHE coordinator, in accordance with DfE recommendations.

The majority of the programme will be delivered through the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, with statutory aspects taught via the science curriculum.

At key stage 2, the topics are broken down into specific areas that will be taught appropriate to pupils' ages.

Elements of the topics for key stage 2 are statutory in accordance with the [science national curriculum](#) and therefore must be taught.

Elements of the topics for key stage 3 are statutory in accordance with the [science national curriculum](#) and therefore must be taught.

The sex and relationship education programme is flexible at secondary level, such that teachers can decide what they would like pupils to know by the end of each year within the key stages.

Key stage 2

Pupils in Year 5 are taught:

- More about how girls' and boys' bodies change during puberty, including how they might feel about these changes.
- About 'self-image' and the idea that how they see themselves is not necessarily how others see them.
- That attraction to others of the opposite or same sex is a natural part of growing up.
- About what terms such as "gay" mean, as and when these terms arise.
- About different situations and scenarios represented in the world around them (e.g. same sex parents).
- To identify things that they are looking forward to about becoming a teenager and to understand that growing up brings responsibilities.
- That the legal age for sexual consent is 16.

Pupils in Year 6 are taught:

- That babies are made during sexual intercourse.
- That having a baby is a choice which responsible adults make when they are with someone they love.
- Strategies for the development of positive self-image and self-esteem.
- To use their knowledge to answer questions their peers may have about getting older.
- The importance of looking after themselves physically and emotionally.
- The way in which being physically attracted to someone might change the nature of the relationship that they have with each other.

During Year 6 classes, pupils may be taught in gender-segregated groups dependent upon the nature of the topic being taught.

Key stage 3

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 are taught:

- The detailed process of human reproduction, including the physical and emotional changes that take place during puberty and adolescence.

- About fertility, including the constant fertility of the male and the cyclical fertility of the female.
- The menstrual cycle, including the different stages, and the emotional changes it brings.
- About fertilisation and pregnancy and the different stages involved, including foetal development in the uterus.
- About sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV and AIDS, and how they can be transmitted.
- The diagnosis of, and treatment for, different STIs.
- How high-risk behaviours affect the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities.
- About different methods of contraception and the importance of these in preventing STIs and pregnancy.
- How diet and disease may affect sexual health, pregnancy and fertility.
- How drugs, including tobacco and cannabis, may affect sexual health, pregnancy and fertility.
- The importance of the law in regards to the legal age for engaging in sexual activity, and the significance of consent.
- The importance of delaying sexual activity and resisting pressure, as well as how to discuss this with partners.
- About the features of positive and stable relationships, and the importance of these for bringing up children and family life.
- The importance of monogamous and consenting relationships and the effects on physical and emotional wellbeing.
- About different types of relationships such as same-sex and civil partnerships, including different choices relating to children.
- The breakdown of relationships and how to deal with loss, including the impact on emotional wellbeing.
- The roles and responsibilities of parents, carers and children within families.
- About what to expect in High School and to discuss any worries that they might have about this transition.

Training of staff

All staff members at Churnet View Middle School will undergo training to ensure they are up-to-date with the sex and relationship education programme.

Training of staff will also be scheduled around any updated guidance on the programme and any new developments, such as 'sexting', which may need to be addressed in relation to the programme.

Churnet View Middle School will ensure that teachers receive training on the Social Exclusion Report on Teenage Pregnancy, and the role of an effective sex and relationship education programme in reducing the number of teenage conceptions.

Trained staff will be able to give pupils advice on where and how to obtain confidential advice, counselling and treatment, as well as advice on emergency contraception and their effectiveness.

Delivery of the programme

Classes may be taught in gender-segregated groups dependent upon the nature of the topic being delivered at the time, and the cultural background of pupils where it is only appropriate to discuss the body in single gender groups.

Throughout every year group, appropriate diagrams, videos, books, games, discussion and practical activities will be used to assist learning.

Inappropriate images, videos, etc. will not be used, and resources will be selected with sensitivity given to the age and cultural background of pupils.

Pupils will be prevented from accessing inappropriate materials on the internet when using such to assist with their learning. The prevention measures taken to ensure this, are outlined in Churnet View Middle School's E-safety Policy, and Acceptable Terms of Use Agreement.

Teachers will establish what is appropriate for one-to-one and whole-class settings, and alter their teaching of the programme accordingly.

Teachers will ensure that pupils' views are listened to and will encourage them to ask questions and engage in discussion. Teachers will answer questions sensitively and honestly.

The programme will be designed as to focus on boys as much as girls and activities will be planned to ensure both are actively involved, matching their different learning styles.

Teachers will focus heavily on the importance of marriage and healthy relationships, though sensitivity will always be given as to not stigmatise pupils on the basis of their home circumstances.

Churnet View Middle School understands that pupils with special education needs and disabilities (SEND) are entitled to learn about sex and relationship education, and the programme will be designed to be inclusive of all pupils.

Teachers will understand that they may need to be more explicit and adapt their planning of work in order to appropriately deliver the programme to pupils with SEND.

At all points of delivery of this programme, parents/carers will be consulted and their views will be valued. What will be taught and how, will be planned in conjunction with parents/carers.

External experts may be invited to assist from time-to-time with the delivery of the sex and relationship education programme, but will be expected to comply with the provisions of this policy.

Working with parents

Churnet View Middle School understands that the teaching of some aspects of the programme may be of concern to parents/carers.

Churnet View Middle School will ensure that no teachers express their personal views or beliefs when delivering the programme.

Parents/carers will be regularly consulted on the content of the programme, through meetings and letters, and the programme will therefore be planned in conjunction with parents/carers.

Churnet View Middle School respects the legal right of parents/carers to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex and relationship education programme, except for those statutory parts included in the science national curriculum.

A list of the statutory topics included in the science national curriculum at the different key stages, can be found in [Appendix 1 – Science national curriculum](#).
Equal opportunities

Churnet View Middle School understands and abides by The Equality Act 2010, and fully respects the rights of pupils and staff members, regardless of any protected characteristics that he/she may have.

Churnet View Middle School is dedicated to delivering the sex and relationship education programme with sensitivity and respect, avoiding any derogatory or prejudicial terms which may cause offence.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality within the classroom is an important component of sex and relationship education, and teachers are expected to respect the confidentiality of their pupils as far as is possible.

Teachers must, however, alert the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Louise Fernyhough) or the Headteacher about any suspicions of inappropriate behaviour or potential abuse as per Churnet View Middle School's Child Protection Policy.

Bullying incidents

Churnet View Middle School has a zero tolerance approach to bullying. Any bullying incidents caused as a result of the sex and relationship education programme, such as those relating to sexual orientation, will be dealt with as seriously as other bullying incidents within the school.

Any occurrence of these incidents should be reported to a member of school staff, who will then discipline the pupil once he/she is on school premises.

These incidents will be dealt with following the process in our Anti-bullying Policy. The Headteacher will decide whether it is appropriate to notify the police or an anti-social behaviour coordinator in their Local Authority of the action taken against a pupil.

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed by the headteacher in conjunction with the PSHE coordinator on an annual basis.

Any changes needed to the policy, including changes to the programme, will be implemented by the headteacher.

Any changes to the policy will be clearly communicated to all members of staff involved in the sex and relationship education programme.

Appendix 1 – Science national curriculum

In accordance with the DfE's 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' 2000, there are certain aspects of sex and relationship education which are compulsory for pupils to learn as they progress through the key stages.

Key stage	Pupils must be taught:
Key stage 1	<p>That animals, including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.</p> <p>To recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans.</p> <p>That humans and animals can produce offspring, and they grow into adults.</p> <p>To recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others.</p> <p>To treat others with sensitivity.</p>
Key stage 2	<p>That nutrition, growth and reproduction are common life processes for humans and other animals.</p> <p>About the main stages of the human life cycle.</p>
Key stage 3	<p>That fertilisation in humans is the fusion between the egg and sperm.</p> <p>About the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence.</p> <p>How the foetus grows and develops.</p> <p>How the growth and reproduction of bacteria and viruses can affect health.</p>