**Knelston Primary School**

## **Sex Education Policy**

At Knelston Primary School we recognise and celebrate the uniqueness of each child through a programme of learning that promotes challenge and personalised education at all levels. Through this, we encourage creative and critical thinking alongside stimulating and meaningful experiences.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is at the heart of our school’s ethos and practice. As a right’s respecting school we teach about children’s rights and model rights and respect in our relationships and practice. We continually aim to provide an inclusive, enabling environment which gives all children a voice and empowers them to achieve.

Our curriculum celebrates the diversity within our school and equips our children with the skills and attributes required to fulfil the four core purposes of the Curriculum for Wales.

Our school strives to create a nurturing environment with strong, open and positive partnerships between adults, children and the wider community, that ensures the well-being of all.

**1. Introduction**

Sex education is an integral part of the education of the whole person and should, therefore, form part of the curriculum for all pupils. It is important that sex education is integrated into a cross curricular programme with continuity from the Primary phase onwards in order to recognise the gradual process of sexual maturation. Care needs to be taken to match any sex education with the maturity of pupils; maturity which may not correspond with chronological age.

It is recommended that sex education ought not to be taught in isolated lessons, or by people who are unknown to pupils. If outside visitors are involved, they should be made fully aware of the school’s policy and arrangements should exist for the presence or intervention of teachers as appropriate.

It is important that a school’s sex education policy is known to all staff in a school, so that if sexual matters arise in any lesson they are handled appropriately and in line with the school’s written policy.

**What is sex education?**

* It is developmental, beginning in early childhood and linked to age and maturity.
* It develops respect for self and others.
* It is about information, attitudes, values and skills.
* It equips children to take responsibility for their behaviour in their personal relationships, and to make informed choices in that area.
* It is more than information or facts about the body or reproduction.
* It involves more curriculum time than a ‘one-off’ talk by a representative of external agencies.

**Why teach it?**

* Sex Education provides an understanding that positive, caring environments are essential for the development of a good self-image and that individuals are in charge of and responsible for their own bodies.
* Sex education encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes which allow pupils to manage their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner.

#### Content

Sex Education takes place in the on-going work of P.S.E. across the curriculum and is not just an isolated lesson or series of lessons. When developing lessons concerning sex education teachers must take into consideration the level of maturity of the children in their classes. Teachers must take account of their capacity to absorb sensitive information and of the extent to which it is essential for them to have such information at that point in their development and should not be geared to the needs of the class/group as a whole. It is unlikely to be appropriate to deal with such issues with the whole class.

The City and County of Swansea Policy Statement in Sex Education suggest that by the end of primary phase all children should have an understanding of the following:-

1. physical differences between male and female
2. menstruation
3. living things come from living things
4. like comes from like
5. human babies grow inside their mothers before they are born
6. both men and women are needed to make babies
7. babies/children need care, love and protection and should not be subjected to abuse
8. the restricting effect of traditional male/female stereotyping and how it should be avoided

These topics form an integral part of a broad-based curriculum within the school. All children in the Y5/Y6 class consider the changes that happen to boys and girls as they begin to grow into adulthood – both emotional and physical changes are discussed. These are presented to the children in carefully structured lessons delivered by two members of staff. Children will be given appropriate materials to take home and discuss with parents.

#### Special Needs

Children with Special Needs are entitled to the same opportunities as other to benefit from sex education. They may however need more help in coping with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up.

#### Parental Involvement

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from sex education except in so far as such education is comprised in the National Curriculum. This parental right may be exercised by either parent or by a person who has responsibility or care of the of the child. Parents do not have to give reasons for this withdrawal nor do they have to indicate what other arrangements they intend to make for providing sex education to their children. Arrangements must therefore be made to inform parents of forthcoming lessons related to sex education and opportunity given for the child to be withdrawn.

# Equal Opportunities

It is the policy of Knelston Primary School to ensure equality of opportunity, irrespective of sex, race, religion, social class or disability.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Last review date:

Next review date:

Signed Headteacher Signed Chair of Governors

Last review date: January 2018

Signed Headteacher Signed Chair of Governors



