

Bryncoch Church in Wales Primary School



Sex Education and Relationships and Sexuality Education Code Policy



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1. INTRODUCTION

At Bryncoch Church in Wales. Primary School we have based our school's sex education policy on the Curriculum for Wales; Sexuality and Relationship Education Code. This Code contains mandatory requirements, the legal basis for which is set out in the [legislation summary](#) of this Curriculum for Wales framework guidance. It sets out the themes and matters that must be encompassed in RSE.

This mandatory RSE Code supports schools to design their RSE. The content is set within the context of broad and interlinked learning strands, namely:

- relationships and identity
- sexual health and well-being
- empowerment, safety and respect.

These strands allow our teachers and staff to design and develop a curriculum tailored to their learners, making connections and developing authentic contexts for learning across the curriculum.

The Welsh Government committed to covering the following themes in RSE: relationships; rights and equity; sex, gender and sexuality; bodies and body image; sexual health and well-being; and violence, safety and support. To assist schools and settings in their planning of RSE, these themes are interwoven into the learning strands.

Across the learning strands, curriculum content in RSE must be inclusive and reflect diversity. It must include learning that develops learners' awareness and understanding of different identities, views and values and a diversity of relationships, gender and sexuality, including LGBTQ+ lives.

Learning about rights and equity runs through all the strands, as well as embedding learning and experience through a rights-based approach to the learning.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

We teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- the way humans reproduce;
- how to keep themselves safe
- respect for their own bodies and the bodies of others.
- the importance building good and healthy relationships;

- moral questions;
- respect for the views of other people;
- sex abuse and what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters.

3. CONTEXT

At Bryncoch Church in Wales Primary School we teach sex education/relationships and sexuality education in the context of the school's aims and values framework and in line with Areas of Learning Experiences in the Curriculum for Wales. While sex education in our school means that we give children information about relationships and changes that occur during puberty, we do this with an awareness of the moral code and values which underpin all our work in school. In particular, we teach sex education/relationships and sexuality education in the belief that:

- it is part of a wider social, personal, spiritual and moral education process;
- children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies;
- children should be taught how to keep themselves safe;
- children should learn about their responsibilities to others, and be aware of the consequences of sexual activity;
- it is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect;
- children need to learn the importance of self-control.

4. ORGANISATION

We teach sex education/relationships and sexuality education through different aspects of the curriculum. We have adopted the ABM Personal Development and Healthy Relationships Pack. NSPCC are invited in annually to deliver assemblies and workshops to all pupils. While we carry out the main sex education/relationships and sexuality education teaching in our Health and Well-Being curriculum, we also teach some sex education/relationships and sexuality education through other subject areas (for example, science and PE), where we feel that they contribute significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of their own body, and how it is changing and developing.

Pupils are taught about relationships, and we encourage children to discuss issues. We teach about the parts of the body and how these work, and we explain to them what will happen to their bodies during puberty. For example, we tell the boys that their voices will change during puberty and we explain to the girls about menstruation. We encourage the children to ask for help if they need it.

In Year 5 and Year 6 we place a particular emphasis on health education, as many children experience puberty at this age. We liaise with the Local Public Health Team and School Nursing Service about suitable teaching materials to use with our children in these lessons. Teachers do their best to answer all questions with sensitivity and care. We aim to ensure that our pupils have an understanding of how babies are born, how their bodies change during puberty, what menstruation is, what masturbation is, and what healthy relationships look like. We always teach this with due regard for the emotional development of the children (as stated earlier in this policy).

5. THE ROLE OF PARENTS

We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation.

In promoting this objective we:

- inform parents about the school's Sex Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy and practice;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the education of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for sex education in the school;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy and making modifications to it as necessary;
- inform parents about the best practice known with regard to sex education, so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home.

We believe that, through this mutual exchange of knowledge and information, children will benefit from being given consistent messages about their changing body and their increasing responsibilities.

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from and part of the Relationship and Sexuality Education Code as it is mandatory, as set by the Welsh Government. We do however encourage parents and carers to liaise with the school with any concerns or worries that they have.

6. THE ROLE OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

We encourage other valued members of the community to work with us to provide advice and support to the children with regard to health education. In particular, members of the Local Public Health Team, School Nursing Service and other health professionals, give us valuable support with teaching and learning.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY

Teachers conduct sex education lessons in a sensitive manner and in confidence. However, if a child makes a reference to being involved, or likely to be involved in sexual activity, then the teacher will take the matter seriously and deal with it as a matter of child protection.

Teachers will respond in a similar way if a child indicates that they may have been a victim of abuse. In these circumstances the teacher will talk to the child as a matter of urgency. If the teacher has concerns, they will draw their concerns to the attention of the head teacher. The head teacher will then deal with the matter in consultation with health care professionals.

Safeguarding policies and procedures will be adhered to.

8. THE ROLE OF THE HEADTEACHER

It is the responsibility of the head teacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our Sex Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the head teacher's responsibility to ensure that members of staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

The head teacher liaises with external agencies regarding the school Sex Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy, and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework.

The head teacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

9. MONITORING AND REVIEW

The governing body monitors our Sex Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy on a regular basis and modifies the policy when necessary in step with current legislation and recommendations. The governing body gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the Sex Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy, and makes a record of all such comments. The governing body monitors the relevance of the Sex Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy within the school's curriculum.

Head Teacher

Chairperson

Date Adopted

Review Date