Dropmore Infant School

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Headteacher:	**Mrs Gitta Streete**
Chair of Governors:	**Mr Tim Wicks**
Policy No:	**016**
Policy Title:	**Relationships Policy**
Issue No:	**005**
Effective Date:	**March 2021**
Next Review Date:	**March 2022**

Approved by Chair of Governors: MJWicks ....

Date: 09.03.2021.....

School ethos:

At Dropmore Infant School we are committed to providing a holistic approach to education which aims to develop the 'whole child' and support their academic, cultural, personal and social development. From September 2020 statutory Relationships Education and Health Education will be part of the taught curriculum within PSHE. This is an essential part of a child's education and contributes to their personal development.

Aims of the Relationships Policy:

- Provide information to staff, parents and carers, governors, pupils and other agencies regarding the organisation, content and approach to teaching Relationships Education
- Help parents and carers to understand Relationships Education and support them to work with their child to secure the very best outcomes for all pupils
- Demonstrate how the school meets legal requirements with regards to teaching Relationships Education

Legal Requirements:

Our Relationship Policy complies with-

⇒ The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

⇒ The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education statutory guidance from the DfE (June 2019)

⇒ The requirements to have an up to date Relationships policy developed in consultation with pupils, parents and carers (Education Act 1996) and in line with the DfE statutory guidance on Relationships Education, RSE and Health Education (June 2019)

⇒ The Equality Act (2010) which requires schools to prevent discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relation between different groups. The protected characteristics are disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment and pregnancy.

To fulfil statutory safeguarding duties and ensure any safeguarding issues arising from Relationships teaching are identified and followed up in accordance with the Child Protection Policy.

Policy Development:

This policy was developed by the PSHE lead in consultation with school governors, staff and parents.

- The policy was written by the PSHE Subject Leader who looked at relevant National and local guidance.
- Staff were then consulted on the policy and had the opportunity to make suggestions and further recommendations.
- The policy was shared with a small group of Governors who had the opportunity to express their views before it was shared with all parents.
- Following this, parents were consulted on the policy and were given the opportunity to express their views, ask questions and make comments.
- Finally, the policy was shared with and ratified by the Governors.

This policy links to the PSHE policy, Child Protection Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Equalities and Cohesion policy and the Behaviour policy.

This policy replaces the previous Sex and Relationships Education policy.

Statutory Relationships Education is taught through the Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) curriculum. The personal, social, health and economic development of our pupils is a vital element of education and we aim to work collaboratively with parents and carers to ensure that our children are well informed and supported to make healthy, safe and positive choices in all aspects of their daily lives. We welcome parents and carers to make an appointment to discuss any aspect of this policy and the provision in school.

Definition of Relationships Education:

Statutory Relationships at Dropmore Infant School is taught through the PSHE curriculum and teaches pupils vital stepping stones at an age-appropriate level towards what they need to know by the end of Year 6 as defined by the DfE guidance. Relationships Education gives pupils the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships with other children and adults. It should enable them to know what a healthy relationship looks like, how to build and maintain happy, healthy relationships with others and recognise the importance of a range of relationships with friends, family, in school and in the wider community in which they live. Relationships Education also teaches pupils to recognise unhealthy behaviours, how to keep safe, identify potential dangers in their online and offline lives, how to report any concerns or abuse and where to access help when needed.

The Curriculum:

At Dropmore Infant School we don't teach sex education in PSHE, however we will cover 'Being Safe', an aspect of the statutory Relationships Education curriculum which includes learning related to privacy and safeguarding. Relationships Education will become statutory from September 2020.

INTENT:

High quality Relationships Education will support pupils to:

- Form and maintain positive relationships with other children and adults;
- Understand the importance of positive and healthy relationships on their wellbeing;
- Recognise what makes a good friendship and how to be a good friend in return;
- Strategies to manage the ups and downs of friendships and relationships with others;
- Show respect for others and recognise diversity within relationships, treating each other with kindness, consideration and understanding;
- Develop positive character traits and personal attributes such as self-respect, kindness, honesty, integrity and resilience;
- Positively engage in social action and contribute to the wellbeing of others;
- Understand the importance of recognising and establishing their own personal boundaries and privacy;
- Understand and respect differences and combat all forms of bullying and discrimination;
- Recognise unhealthy relationships, inappropriate behaviour and bullying and to report concerns or abuse and are taught the appropriate way to do so (including signposting to trusted online support services such as Childline);
- Ask a trusted adult rather than go on line with regards to any concerns about relationship issues and avoid viewing any inappropriate material or entering into social media conversations that can could cause them harm.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Relationships Education is delivered through the PSHE curriculum. The aspects of Relationships Education as defined by the DfE will be taught at an age appropriate level.

We ensure the content and delivery of relationships education is appropriate and relevant to our pupils. We provide an inclusive curriculum that promotes understanding and mutual respect for all. We reflect diversity within our curriculum to ensure that no pupil feels excluded and teach pupils to respect difference, promote equality and challenge stigma.

Outcomes for Relationships Education are defined by the DfE and cover:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- On line relationships
- Being safe

What we use

Relationships Education is taught to all children in EYFS and KS1 through the 'Jigsaw' PSHE programme. The lessons take place as part of the PSHE curriculum and consist of one 30-minute lesson each week for KS1 and one 15-minute lesson and appropriate child-initiated learning opportunities each week for children in EYFS. All lessons are taught by the class teacher or headteacher. The Jigsaw programme introduces scientific names for body parts. We are looking to introduce this in future academic years, following an information session and consultation with the parents.

As part of our ethos to develop the 'whole child' we regularly reinforce aspects of Relationships Education as part of our day to day learning, whole school events and in assemblies. We work closely with the charity Buckinghamshire Mind who provide termly assemblies for the children. We also welcome speakers from other charities and groups to support our children's personal, social and emotional development.

Managing difficult questions:

All aspects of PSHE are underpinned by shared and understood ground rules, which are regularly discussed during PSHE lessons and class discussions. Lessons are delivered in a safe and well managed environment in which pupils are encouraged to ask questions and raise issues in a respectful and appropriate manner. Some questions or issues raised may not be appropriately answered in whole class lessons and these will be followed up separately on an individual or group basis.

To allow pupils who do not feel confident to ask questions or wish to have a separate conversation with a member of staff, each child has a personalised object e.g. a stone, card or block that they can use to highlight to the adults that they would like to talk.

Whilst it is vital to have trust and openness we cannot offer total confidentiality to pupils. Any disclosures or areas of concern will be followed up in accordance with our safeguarding procedures. We also respect that some questions are better addressed at home with parents/carers and the school will share information with parents/carers on an individual basis should the need arise.

Equality Impact Assessment:

At Dropmore Infant School we recognise that not all children will be able to access lessons at the same level. Lessons will be tailored to ensure that all children are able to participate and access the curriculum. The class teacher will implement a variety of teaching methods and activities to support the vulnerable children, such as those with SEND. This may include, but is not limited to, small group focus activities with the class teacher or teaching assistant, modified resources tailored to the child's need, or one to one learning with a designated adult. Where appropriate, parents/carers will be contacted prior to or following lessons so that they are able to support their child's understanding and learning further at home.

IMPACT:

High quality Relationships Education at Dropmore Infant School will enable our pupils to:

- Enjoy healthy and positive relationships with others.
- Understand how their behaviour affects others and visa versa.
- Value and understand the importance of maintaining good relationships.
- Be aware of and respect different types of relationships.
- Begin to recognise unhealthy relationships.
- Know what to do if there are problems within relationships, how to keep safe and where to go to seek help.

Confidentiality and Safeguarding:

Any personal disclosures made by pupils will be followed up in accordance with the school's child protection policy. Teachers will report any safeguarding concerns to the DSL and share concerns with parents/carers according to the school's safeguarding procedures.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- It is the statutory responsibility of the Governing Body to ensure the school has a compliant and up to date Relationships policy. The Governing Body are required to approve the policy and hold the Headteacher to account for its implementation.
- The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring PSHE is taught consistently across the school.
- The PSHE Subject Leader is responsible for leading and managing PSHE which includes statutory Relationships Education.
- Teachers are responsible for delivering PSHE.
- Pupils are expected to fully engage with PSHE provision and treat other with respect.

Working with parents and carers (consulting, informing and supporting):

At Dropmore Infant School we are committed to working with parents and believe that it is important to have the support of parents and the wider community for the PSHE and Relationships programme. Parents are provided with the opportunity to find out about and discuss the school's programme through information evenings, parents' evening, consultations, the school website and displays. For more information on Relationships Education the DFE have produced a guide for parents.

To promote effective communication and discussion between parents and their children we notify parents through curriculum meetings, termly curriculum letters and the school website about when particular aspects of PSHE and Relationships Education will be taught. We also encourage parents to contact the school to discuss any issues and questions in a positive, sensitive and proactive manner.

Due to the age of the children at Dropmore Infant School we do not teach sex education. Parents and carers do not have the right to withdraw their child from PSHE which includes statutory Relationships Education and Health Education.

Monitoring, evaluation and training:

Relationships Education provision will be monitored and evaluated by the PSHE Subject Leader, Headteacher and Governors in line with the monitoring cycle agreed by the school. The Relationships policy will be reviewed annually.

To ensure staff are confident to deliver all aspects of Relationships Education, access to local and national training will be made available in accordance with the school's CPD programme for staff development.