

Haddenham Community Junior School

A policy for the incorporation of Sex Education into the school curriculum

At Haddenham Community Junior School children learn to respect themselves and others. They become aware of their impact on the wider environment. They know how to succeed and their achievements are celebrated. Their skills are valued, whatever form they take. They learn to work both individually and as party of a team and take responsibility for heir learning. They know the boundaries of acceptable behaviour and understand the consequences of crossing them. They are encouraged to work hard and achieve the best that they can.

In Haddenham Community Junior School sex education forms part of a specifically planned health education topic entitled, "My Body". Children study this topic in the summer term of Year Six.

The "My Body" topic covers aspects of Science and PHSE including the following elements:

- 1 Gaining knowledge
- 2 Choice and responsibility
- 3 Self esteem
- 4 Attitudes and values

Each class will watch three BBC television programmes:

- 1 All about me.
- 2 Doctor Hilary
- 3 Bounty, Growing up.

Children begin to ask questions about sex from an early age and, by the time they reach primary school, they are already equipped with a range of attitudes and a certain amount of information about sexuality and relationships. Some of this information may not be accurate or helpful. Not all parents are confident about answering questions correctly and without embarrassment. They may be uncertain about the vocabulary to use and many feel their own sex education to have been inadequate.

Our aim is to help children understand growth and development as they approach puberty in a positive sex education curriculum. Our objectives are to lay the foundation for healthy attitudes towards sexuality in later years.

The controversial areas of the "rights and wrongs" of sex, the moral and sexual behaviour between cultures, generations and individuals are not touched on.

Many children now live in one-parent families, or with adults who are not their biological parents. The topic reflects this fact and any reference to "family" can refer to single and two parent units and does not imply that any one way of child rearing is any better than any other. The programmes do assume that family bonds are bonds of love and that sex takes place within a loving relationship.

Key Concepts in our Sex Education Curriculum

1 All humans grow gradually and, since everybody is different, changes happen at different times.

2 Babies grow continuously, into children and then into adults. Human babies grow inside their mother until they are born, and when they are tiny they need special care.

3 Like comes from like.

4 Body changes at puberty are a normal and natural part of growing into an adult.

5 Both a man and a woman are necessary for a baby to be conceived.

Parents

Parents will be informed about the teaching materials and will be invited to watch the programmes so that they can initiate discussion at home after the children have seen them.

Parents have the right to have their children removed from sex education if they so wish and are asked to contact the school well in advance.

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