

<b>Vision statement</b>
BRIDGE is a family of schools committed to high performance. We embrace a universal culture of excellence in the learning communities we build.
<b>Aims</b>
To continue building a Multi Academy Trust that promotes strong values, an excellent education for all children, develops highly effective Academy Teams, is financially secure, and ensures effective governance.
To nurture, support and encourage aspirations by providing excellent learning opportunities, inspiring teaching environments, and a creative approach to curriculum subjects that secures engagement from all our learners resulting in high levels of academic progress and outcomes.
To develop outstanding leadership, teaching and support teams by valuing committed, reflective staff, and providing rigorous and challenging professional development for continual School Improvement.
To develop hubs as centres of learning excellence to disseminate best practice, firstly within and then beyond, the MAT.
To successfully engage and communicate with parents/carers in our local communities, supporting pupil progress, well-being and achievement.

## Sex and Relations Education Policy

<b>Purpose</b>
The objective of SRE is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. Its purpose is to help our children to learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.

**September 2018**

<b>Policy Version</b>	<b>V1.0</b>	<b>Next Review Date</b>	<b>09/21</b>
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**Aims:**

We teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- the way humans reproduce;
- respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term and loving relationship;
- the importance of family life;
- moral questions;
- respect for other people;
- the existence of sexual abuse, and what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters;
- we generate an atmosphere where children can be comfortable about asking questions about sexuality, sexual relations and reproduction;
- we provide an acceptable vocabulary for all parts of the male and female bodies and their functions;
- explain the nature of human reproduction using age appropriate language;
- stress the value of family life (widely defined) and the importance of proper care and nurture;
- enable children to understand the danger from strangers and help them to develop strategies to resist such situations;
- help children to understand that they have rights and control over who touches their bodies;
- help children understand and communicate about forthcoming pubertal changes;
- provide explanations and reassurances about physical and emotional changes and help children to adjust to them;
- answer awkward questions honestly and frankly, whilst reserving the right to refer age-inappropriate questions to parents or guardians;
- help children to be aware of the importance of personal hygiene;
- provide a variety of resources appropriate to the age and ability of the child;
- enable children to understand danger from strangers and help develop strategies to resist such situations.

**Principles and Practice:**

- At Bridgeschools, we believe that all children should receive teaching that supports their development into mature, active citizens. As part of the Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Emotional (PSHCE) curriculum, Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) builds on the Statutory National Curriculum for science. Our teaching ensures that pupils consider the moral aspects of sex education, and also encourages our pupils to develop loving and caring relationships. We strive to meet the needs of all children across the spectrum of abilities, regardless of age, gender, ethnic or social background and taking account of their individual talents and special educational needs. We will provide, in a safe and welcoming setting Sex and Relationship Education that is challenging, interesting, informative and relevant. We believe that our teaching should promote our pupils' spiritual, moral, social, physical and cultural development and also prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.
- SRE is always taught within the context of the PSHE curriculum (Personal, Social and Health Education). This curriculum places sex and relationships education with teaching about the importance of marriage, within family life; stable and loving relationships; respect; love and care. SRE is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health; it is not about the

promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity – this would be inappropriate teaching (*SRE Guidance DfE 2010; DoH Sexual Health Framework 2013; Healthy School Standards*). All Bridgeschools staff have a duty to ensure any Safeguarding or Child Protection concerns are dealt with swiftly in line with the Trust's policy.

#### Our Method:

- Bridgeschools follows the Cornwall Approved guidance from Cornwall Healthy Schools: <https://www.cornwallhealthyschools.org> and the PSHE Association: <https://www.pshe-association.org.uk>
- Schools adapt the resources, to meet the need of their specific communities, based on the guidance above
- The Science National Curriculum includes learning about the reproductive system of humans; this is taught within Year 5 and is statutory. We believe it is good educational practice for sex education in school to be embedded within the PSHE curriculum; many of the skills learned in PSHE are transferable to SRE. Parents and Carers are notified in advance, by letter, when the children in Year 5 will be learning about the statutory Science, PHSE and SRE. The teacher is the main person to teach SRE, however sometimes we use age appropriate outside agencies to support and enhance our programme, eg school nurses. Teachers must be careful to ensure that their personal beliefs and attitudes do not influence the teaching of PSHE. No one (teacher or pupil) should be expected to answer a personal question. It is normal practice for more than one teacher to deliver this information, and where appropriate (eg question time) we may use relevant gender group.

#### Roles and Responsibilities:

- Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education provided at school except for those parts included in the Statutory National Curriculum (Science). If parents wish to withdraw their child from aspects of SRE, not in the Statutory National Curriculum, parents must make an appointment to speak to either the Headteacher. If concerns still exist and are not part of the National Curriculum, then alternative arrangements will be made.
- Parents/Carers are the key figures in helping their children to cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up, and also in preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities which sexual maturity brings. We consider that our teaching of SRE is complementary and supportive to the role of parents. In this regard, parents are invited to offer their views about its content and presentation, and are encouraged to review our teaching materials.
- Schools will tailor guidance from the PSHE association to meet the needs of their unique communities, whilst ensuring that that the curriculum is met.
- Headteachers will monitor their school provision
- Bridgeschools Senior Leadership Team will support in reviewing the curriculum
- School Governors must ensure that SRE is taught across the school
- Trustees must ensure that SRE is monitored by the Local Governing Bodies

## Appendices:

Please refer to the following policies for further guidance:

Subject policies, (Curriculum), Equalities, Safeguarding/Child Protection, Online Safety and RRS policies. The Children and Social Work Act 2017 which introduces new legislation on relationships and sex education in schools.