

# **SRE AT SANDBROOK**

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) forms part of the Science and Personal, Social and Health curriculum. Starting with simple family relationships in Reception and Key Stage One, relationships are discussed throughout the primary years. It is only in the older year groups that children learn about aspects of puberty and reproduction.

It is generally accepted that children become 'educated' about sexual matters from a very early age. They receive information (either explicitly or implicitly) from family, peers, the media and the general values and attitudes they encounter in society. This approach can lead to misconceptions. There are many advantages of school-based SRE. It provides a structured programme matched to the ages and development stages of pupils. It can combat ignorance and fear and clarify existing knowledge by providing accurate information. It can provide opportunities to discuss feelings, emotions and attitudes in a safe, non-threatening situation. It can also help to create a natural attitude towards sexuality and to develop the skills needed to manage relationships. By providing opportunities to exchange ideas, it can promote tolerance and understanding of others. The sharing of ideas can contribute to the development of values and a personal sense of morality.

We are fully aware of the moral, legal, cultural and ethnic dimensions of the subject and the importance of parents' / carers' views in relation to SRE is well recognised. Information regarding the structure of the lessons and materials available and the school's policy is always available for any parent to view. Parents / carers have the choice of withdrawing their children if considered necessary – we always advise parents in advance when issues of a sensitive nature are being covered.