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| **Errol Primary School** |
| *Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Policy* |

**Rationale**

As a Health promoting School, Errol promotes health in its widest sense. We consider the physical, social and emotional development of our pupils, staff and school community. Development of self-esteem is central to this.

Sex education is an important aspect of every child’s personal and social development. Recent research by the World Health Organisation shows that:

* schools programmes are more effective when delivered prior to sexual activity beginning
* good education will *not* bring forward sexual relationships and in fact can delay the onset of sexual activity

Sex Education at Errol is presented in an honest, objective, balanced and sensitive manner within a framework of sound values.

“Sex Education forms a key element of personal, social and health education in schools and is an important part of children’s preparation for later life.”

(Scottish Executive: Circular 2000/1)

**Aims**

*Through its Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Policy, Errol Primary School aims to:*

* promote pupils’ self-esteem and confidence especially in their relationships with others
* encourage discussion of values and moral issues and respecting their own and other’s views
* help our pupils to make informed, responsible and healthy choices about their lives as they grow up
* teach children about the physical development of their bodies as they change
* teach children about the way humans reproduce
* ensure that sex education is available to all children regardless of gender, ability, cultural or religious background in line with the school’s policy on equal opportunities

**Policy Outcomes**

# *Pupils at Errol Primary School will be given opportunities to:-*

* be supported in developing respectful relationships and provide strategies to promote resilience
* learn using a variety of teaching methods e.g. co-operative learning, restorative approaches etc.
* raise awareness of how a variety of relationships are formed, maintained and can enrich health and wellbeing
* create awareness and understanding that we all belong to different family groups
* develop the confidence to trust their own feelings e.g. make decisions about genuine relationships (CEOP)
* raise awareness of how our bodies change and the names we use to describe different parts
* describe changes in growth and development during puberty and the importance of personal hygiene
* understand that we are all unique
* develop the ability to describe how human life begins and how a baby is born
* discuss domestic and sexual abuse and talk about who to approach for help in these situations
* use contextualised role play activities to explore the role of a parent in bringing up a child
* discuss parenting skills e.g. nurturing, commitment, caring from birth to adolescence

**Responsibilities of Pupils, Teachers and Parents**

# *How we organise provision for Relationship, Sexual Health and Parenthood learning at Errol Primary:-*

* have clear policies on sexual health education that take account of national and local guidance
* have a commitment to work in partnership with parents/carers to raise concerns
* respect the cultural, ethnic and religious influences within the home, the school and the community
* respect the different home circumstances and needs of all young people
* provide information and support for parents
* class teachers will deliver appropriate and effective sexual health education to meet the needs of every individual child

# How its Effectiveness is Monitored

The effectiveness of our Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood delivery is measured against the National Guidelines, Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and their associated levels.

# Staff Development and Training Opportunities

Regular reviews of staff training needs are made. Opportunities for training, both in-house and external courses, are made available to all staff.

# Leadership and Management Roles

School Management will review the provision on a regular basis, taking into account the needs of the staff and pupils as well as the best interests of the school. Health and Wellbeing review will be considered under the following headings:-

**Management of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood** **Curriculum** – timetabling, school organisation of curriculum delivery, establishment of appropriate cross curricular teaching opportunities, deployment of additional staff, integration of outside support in meeting Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood outcomes

**Communication -** with staff, pupils, parents and others on Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood issues

**Management of Resources** – their suitability, provision of active learning resources, location and other associated resource management costs

**Staff Training** – co-ordination at school level

**Monitoring and Evaluating -** the effectiveness of the school provision through planning and lesson observations and Health Promoting Schools Audit process

**How Developments will be Monitored and Evaluated**

* Staff will be consulted on the mechanisms we use in this school for ensuring coherence, continuity and progression in our pupils’ experiences. These will be reviewed as our practice develops.
* Staff will include aspects of Health and Wellbeing where appropriate in their forward plans and will use our agreed formats for monitoring their pupils’ knowledge and skill development. Staff will use our agreed methods of assessment and recording development as with other areas of the curriculum. Staff will be encouraged to review and comment on current practice in delivering Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood outcomes within the school and make suggestions for improvement.
* Parents, pupils and all key stakeholders in our school community will be consulted on a regular basis to monitor our developments in this area.

**Related Documents**

* Errol Primary School Health & Wellbeing Policy
* Errol Primary School Mental, Emotional and Social Wellbeing Policy
* Improving Health, Improving Learning (Perth & Kinross Council)
* Health and Wellbeing for All (LT Scotland, Curriculum for Excellence Website)
* Health and Wellbeing Outcomes (LT Scotland, Curriculum for Excellence Website)

This policy will be reviewed as part of the on-going Quality Improvement process at Errol Primary.

January 2013