

# **SETANTA SCHOOL POLICY**

## **Relationships and Sexuality**

R.S.E. is part of Setanta School's S.P.H.E. Curriculum, and provides our pupils with structured opportunities to develop knowledge and skills necessary for the establishment of healthy personal relationships.

Setanta School policy on R.S.E. is part of an overall policy incorporating the Setanta Mission statement, the Setanta School Policy on Dignity and Respect, and the Setanta School Policy on Home-School partnership. It also incorporates Setanta Schools' relationship with the Health Service Executive Clinical Team and is compatible with the Stay Safe Programme.

### **Appropriate Behaviour**

- Shaking hands, greetings, talking, platonic socialising, touching as part of a Curriculum activity e.g. P.E. Music.
- S.P.H.E. Curriculum – people can opt out if they want.

### **Inappropriate Behaviour**

- Holding hands.
- Hugging.
- Kissing.
- No inappropriate touching e.g. massaging.
- Masturbating – at home.
- Urinating in inappropriate places.

### **Procedure**

- Distract (redirect child).
- Verbal reprimand.
- 1. Immediate intervention.  
2. Inform class teacher and Special Needs Assistant.  
3. Set up programme (inform parents).  
4. Keep record.  
5. Review/Include for Individual Educational Programme (IEP) Meeting.  
6. Clinical Team (Strategy) if programme is not successful.

## **Parents' Involvement**

- Information – School Policy on Relationship and Sexual Education and Social Personal and Health Education.
- Information and advice – their own child - Individual Educational Programme.
- Sex education – school, home.
- Referred to other services/agencies.

## **Staff Involvement**

- Developing and implementing school policy and guidelines.
- Sex education.
- Supporting parents.
- Consent of Principal and parents – stick to programme, nothing else without permission.
- HSE Clinical Team Support, outside of classroom but during class time.
- Never discuss RSE outside of classroom.
- **SPHE** – Stay Safe Programme – bullying, stranger danger.  
R.S.E. Programme

## **References:**

- S.P.H.E. and RSE Curriculum.
- Resource materials for RSE – Department of Education & Science.
- Sex and Relationship Educator – Fiona Speirs.
- Sexuality and Autism – Haracopos & Petersen, Denmark 1992.
- Sex Education Resources for Learning Difficulties – McCarthy & Thompson, 1994.
- Sexual Problems and Needs – Haracopos & Petersen, Denmark, 1992.
- Autism and Sexuality – Autism Society of Indiana, 2000.