

# GARRETTS GREEN NURSERY SCHOOL



## Relationship Education Policy

### Safeguarding Statement

At Garretts Green Nursery School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Garretts Green Nursery School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

### Rationale

The subject of relationships in the education of young children may sometimes be sensitive and a cause of distress to parents. It is essential, therefore, that what we understand by Relationships Education and what we explore during teaching is clear and unambiguous.

### Aims and Objectives

- ◆ To provide clear guidance for parents, staff and governors
- ◆ For staff and parents to begin to develop the understanding that Sex and Relationship Education is a gradual developmental process that is supported by a partnership between home and setting which has a focus primarily in Nursery on family and friendships.
- ◆ To help children to respect themselves and others
- ◆ To support children through their physical, emotional and moral development
- ◆ To develop skills and understanding to enable children to make healthy, responsible choices about their health and well being
- ◆ To help children understand the significance of a long term stable loving relationship and its importance for family life. Care needs to be taken to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances.
- ◆ To help children develop confidence

### Content and Delivery

At Garretts Green Nursery School we encourage the following values:-

- ◆ Respect for self
- ◆ Respect for others
- ◆ Responsibility for own actions
- ◆ Responsibility for family, friends, school and the community

At Garretts Green Nursery School, our policy is to :-

- ◆ Always answer questions naturally, sensitively and simply, giving appropriate and enough information to satisfy the children's curiosity according to their developmental level.
- ◆ Address all discussions about relationships with sensitivity to the children's own circumstances and developmental levels.
- ◆ Through our nursery topics, provide resources, which help to underline how we develop and grow.
- ◆ Emphasise the need for caring for each other and developing loving relationships.

The main opportunities for teaching about relationships are in Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Literacy and in Understanding the World.

Teaching opportunities will explore the notion of families and how they are different but all loving and secure. Children will learn to identify similarities between themselves and peers but also how being different makes them special and unique. They will learn to be positive about themselves and about each other. Children will also learn about making friends and what happens when they fall out. They will explore transitions and moving on to other settings. They will learn how to stay healthy, to develop good routines for sleep, eating and exercise.

The setting will provide a positive, secure, non judgemental environment in which to learn. All pupils will be treated equally regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, ability or disability, and social background.

Rights of the Child will be explored as the school works towards the Unicef RRS Award.

### **Outside Agencies**

At times the Nursery will work with outside agencies to promote our values, aims and content delivery.

### **Use of Agencies eg Health Visitor, Doctor, Nurse.**

The Nursery will follow Local Authority guidelines and will contact the Local Authority/Health Education Service team if in doubt about the suitability of any programmes. We work with HES to promote healthy lifestyles through visits from The Life Caravan.

### **Specific Issues**

#### **Confidentiality**

Sometimes, during sessions exploring feelings or work on families, for example, children may disclose issues which concern them. Children will be informed that 100% confidentiality cannot be assured. For suspected Child Protection concerns we will follow the LA policy and procedures outlined in the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

#### **Working with Parents**

Parents will be given the opportunity to discuss the Policy Document, planning, methods of teaching and resources. Any specific questions may be discussed with the Head Teacher.

#### **Dissemination of the Policy**

Policy documents are available in the office. Parents will be supplied with a full copy on request. The policy will be presented to all staff and the School Improvement Committee and then approved at the Full Governing Body Meeting.

#### **Equal Opportunities/Inclusivity**

The settings Relationship policy and programme will reflect the ethos of the school, by providing a secure, non judgemental environment in which to learn.

This Policy is integral to, and complements the school's PHSE Policy.