**SOME CONTEXTUAL SENSITIVITIES TO CONSIDER**

**DO WE WANT TO INCLUDE SEX EDUCATION IN OUR   
(CHURCH OF ENGLAND/METHODIST) PRIMARY SCHOOL?**

**A SENSITIVITY REGARDING PUPILS**

It is important to think about the minority of pupils’ who have identified as transgender or non-binary or who have made it known that they may be questioning their sexual orientation. Other children may have same sex parents and therefore it may be a sensitive issue. Teaching about human sexual intercourse from a hetero-normative, binary perspective may leave them confused and isolated. Consultation with their parents and with the pupil themselves would be advisable.

**NO YES**

We should follow the lead of the Science Curriculum in Sex Education and not include Sex Education at the Primary Phase

A sensitivity to be born in mind:- the question “How do babies and children get to live in their families” has many answers. The families in your community will not all have been created by ‘conventional’ routes

Another possible cultural sensitivity:- If you serve a community with a large number of conservative religious parents. They may well object to their children learning about sex at the Primary level and will be sensitive to any inclusion about same sex relationships

Our children need to be educated about ‘How most babies are made’ and now is the appropriate age.

**Protection/Safeguarding** **Knowledge**

**NO** – maybe it will be wise to NOT include sex education for safeguarding reasons. Just follow the “Pants approach” nspcc.org.uk

You will have to manage the parents’ right to withdraw their children from Sex Education and have a process in place

You may decide you will still have Sex Education but those parents who object can exercise their legal right to exclude their children.

This may result in you deciding NOT to include Sex Education

Do we want to teach Primary Age children about same-sex sex, as well as heterosexual sex?

Reason A  
Safeguarding reasons. We need to educate children so they can protect themselves from sexual abuse. They need to know what sex is. Children are vulnerable to being abused by people of the same sex as well as the opposite sex.

Reason B  
It is a logical progression from the teaching about Puberty – why do people go through puberty? So they are biologically able to have children

This may mean you decide NOT to include Sex Education