### Health Education Components Across the National Curriculum

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**Mapping Health Education Topics in the NC**

School staff and governors must therefore (a) identify topics that relate to the overall health education curriculum; (b) select the most appropriate, and (c) assemble them into a coherent practical curriculum.

The Guidance document was published, we noted the many similarities between its philosophical approach and that of Just A Tick.

Just A Tick is a curriculum-planning exercise containing a checklist of 44 topics, generated by teachers and headteachers with differing specialisms across many cross-curricular disciplines. Therefore it reflects the needs of many subject areas across the curriculum.

**Common ground**

We discovered much common ground between the nine components in the NC framework and the 44 Just A Tick topics. To explore these links in more detail we designed the grid shown opposite and carried out a small survey among professional colleagues, inviting them to place a tick where a Just A Tick topic was seen as relevant to an NC curriculum component.

The result of this exercise, for the first 22 topics, is presented. As can be seen from the table, many connections can be made, and the topics listed strongly support the nine components of the NC.

This diagram does two things:

1. It shows that the Just A Tick topics are directly relevant to the NC guidelines.
2. It shows how these components can be expressed in the curriculum through appropriate selection of those topics that already have an educational status.

In addition, the use of the Just A Tick survey in a school reveals which of these topics are most likely to win the interest and approval of pupils, staff, and parents.

The final outcome of the whole exercise will be that the school can implement the NC health education recommendations from a position of knowledge and strength.

There are probably many ways of translating this exercise into practice. The following strategy is offered as an example.

1. Each member of staff at a school, as well as the governors, can be invited to examine the topics list and tick the NC components with which they feel it is linked.
2. The completed sheets could subsequently be analysed, and the results presented at a meeting. Alternatively the completion and analysis could take place at the same meeting. However it is done, an arena for de-
HEALTH EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

FOUR ONE-DAY CONFERENCES have been planned for the spring of 1993, with 30 PLACES at each.

Each conference programme is designed for Directors of Public Health, Health Promotion Officers, Advisers, and Health Education or FSE Co-ordinators. The programme includes the examination of two survey methods for use in schools, and the relevance of the results to schools, LEAs, and Health Authorities.

The dates and venues are as follows:
- **Tuesday Mar. 5**: EASTBOURNE
  Burlington Hotel
- **Wednesday Mar. 13**: HINCKLEY
  Hinckley Island Hotel
- **Thursday Mar. 21**: PENRITH
  North Lakes Hotel

Delegates will experience ‘hands-on’ practice of new methods and will be supplied with materials.

If you are interested in attending one of these conferences, please contact Teresa Code or Zoe Truman at the Schools Health Education Unit.

Reservations will be on a first-come, first-served basis.