



**SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS
EDUCATION POLICY**

We believe that sex and relationship education should contribute to promoting the social, moral, spiritual, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at school and of society, preparing pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. We also believe that SRE should be taught within a climate of trust, respect and appropriate confidentiality in which pupils and adults feel able to talk openly and honestly. It is comprised of learning about positive and negative relationships, different models of families and individual sexuality. Building on the relationships education we teach about sex and sexual health.

Attitudes and values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
- learning the value of stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children
- learning the value of respect, love and care
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas
- developing critical thinking as part of decision making

Personal and social skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- developing self-respect and empathy for others
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- managing conflict
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

Knowledge and understanding

- learning about and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services
- learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits to be gained from such a delay
- avoiding unplanned pregnancy

Who delivers SRE?

Sex and Relationship Education is delivered to all year groups through PSHE. These are revisited each year and are built upon. This is complemented by the Science National Curriculum. There are also appropriate interventions made by support staff and outside agencies e.g. vulnerable pupils who are at risk of sexual exploitation. The curriculum is supported by sessions delivered by external agencies who can provide professional information to pupils and support teaching staff, this is done by whole year 'drop-down' days.

Approach

It is important that pupils are given information and encouraged to make healthy choices so as to avoid high risk behaviour.

The importance of consideration and respect for the people in the class will be emphasised, including those who come from cultures where open discussion of sexual issues is not the norm and who may be experiencing some difficulties and embarrassment.

Statutory requirements

Our approach to SRE is in line with the Government's strategy and guidance given to schools in DfE Sex and Relationship Guidance 2000 and Learning and Skills Act 2000.

Advice to individual students

It is important to distinguish between the function of providing education generally about sexual matters and counselling and advice to individual students on these issues, particularly if this relates to their own sexual behaviour. Where this advice is sought pupils are signposted to the Multi Agency room.

Confidentiality

Staff are aware that only in the most exceptional circumstances the school should be in the position of having to handle information without parental knowledge. Where younger pupils are involved, this could be grounds for serious concern and child protection issues should be addressed. Please see our Safeguarding policy. At the end of sensitive lessons, pupils are signposted to places where they can receive the appropriate support.

Pupils' withdrawal procedures

Parents have the right of withdrawal from any or all parts of a school's programme of sex education other than those elements which are required by the National Curriculum Science Order (biological aspects of human sexual behaviour, human reproduction and the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence).