

Aims of Sex Education Policy

We aim:

- To encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour.
- To encourage self-esteem.
- To encourage respect and consideration for others.
- To provide support and information for young people and their parents.

Members of staff responsible

The PSHE Co-ordinator organises the sex education programme through PSHE sessions. The Head of Religious Studies leads the RE department and oversees the schemes of work for Religious Education.

Issues considered in the delivery of lessons

1. Confidentiality

- Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential and made to understand that if certain disclosures are made certain actions will ensue. At the same time pupils will be offered sensitive and appropriate support. The following procedures will be adhered to by all adults.
 - a. Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse
 - b. Disclosure of pregnancy. House heads will deal with any disclosure of this nature

2. Use of visitors

- The PSHE Co-ordinator will be in charge of booking all visitors for delivery of PSHE lessons. When booking visitors, the PSHE co-ordinator will consider carefully:
 - a. The visitor's suitability for delivering the programme.
 - b. The programme's suitability for the age groups targeted
 - c. The visitor's role in relation to the teacher and pupils, e.g. adviser, consultant, lecturer?

3. Parental views

- Under the Education Act of 1993 parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme. Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to make an appointment to meet the teacher and discuss the issues but there is no obligation to do so. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in later sex education without parental approval. Pupils who are withdrawn will be catered for separately and provided with suitable work.

4. Disclosure

- Pupils are discouraged from disclosing intimate details which are likely to cause subsequent embarrassment.
- Pupils are required to respect the privacy of themselves and others.

5. Questions

- No questions have to be answered quickly.
- Not all questions have to be answered publicly.
- Some questions the teacher may not be able to answer.

6. Counselling

- It must be clearly kept in mind that any questions about sex education must be covered by this policy and that counselling is not part of every teacher's role.

7. Family life

- The value of family life is an important aspect and will be approached largely through a consideration of the qualities and relationships between the group of people, with an emphasis of stability, respect, caring and support.

8. Organisation

- A variety of teaching approaches is adopted to give pupils relevant information to enable moral issues to be explored through discussion and to acquire appropriate skills.
- Pupils are taught in mixed ability and mixed gender groups.

9. Content

- Sex education provides knowledge, and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes which will allow pupils to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way.
- Topics covered include: relationships, puberty, friendship, love and conception, birth process, contraception, abortion, health issues, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, and safer sex.

When this policy was reviewed, an equality impact assessment was conducted to ensure any changes did not have an adverse effect under the terms of the Equality Act 2010. Should you have any comments regarding this policy, please contact the school.