



## SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY



“Good quality sex and relationships education (SRE) helps young people to develop positive relationships, avoid negative outcomes, such as unplanned pregnancy, and enjoy good sexual health throughout their lives. All schools have a statutory duty to promote their pupils’ well-being. Good quality SRE has an important part to play in fulfilling this duty. Young people say they want the opportunity, within open dialogue, to learn about the emotional implications of relationships as well as the biology of sex and sexual health promotion in school SRE lessons” (Taken from ‘Are You Getting it Right?’ - A Toolkit for Consulting Young People on Sex and Relationships Education, Sex Education Forum 2008)



### Why teach SRE ?

Effective SRE:

- ◆ Promotes self-esteem, assertiveness and builds confidence.
- ◆ Promotes and develops a student’s respect for themselves and others.
- ◆ Promotes positive, responsible and caring relationships.
- ◆ Provides accurate information, including details of local services.
- ◆ Teaches a student to understand human sexuality.
- ◆ Is developmental, spiralling and appropriate to the age, ability and maturity level of children and young people.
- ◆ Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students at school and in society.
- ◆ Supports parental involvement.

### What are our legal obligations?

The Education and Inspection Act of 2006 stipulates that schools have a duty to promote the well being of students. In secondary schools, head teachers and governors are required to provide all students with a full and appropriate programme of SRE.

The biological elements of SRE, including anatomy, puberty and reproduction as set out in the National Curriculum Science order, are mandatory for all KS3 and KS4 students.

We must advise parents that they can choose to withdraw their children from all or part of any non-Mandatory SRE component if they wish to do so.

We must define our view of SRE (above), describe how it is provided and by who. (Please see sheet 2). We must say how our SRE programme is monitored and evaluated as well as specifying the review date of our policy.

### How is our policy monitored?

We will monitor the delivery of SRE in the following ways;

- ◆ Support staff by delivering a thorough training programme and providing regular reviews of our teaching content.
- ◆ Identify lead governor(s) to work with the team delivering SRE, raise SRE at Governor’s meetings and listen and represent the views of parents at organised meetings.
- ◆ Review our policy every two years and continually review our SRE teaching strategies.
- ◆ Liaise with outside agencies to ensure that we are representing the services they offer correctly.
- ◆ Provide feedback opportunities for our students which will help to inform our future planning.



## Implementing Sex and Relationship Education

### At KS3

- ◆ Human reproduction system
- ◆ Coping with menstruation
- ◆ Physical and emotional changes
- ◆ Respect for the opposite sex
- ◆ Effect of diet on the body
- ◆ Contraception
- ◆ Parenting and family life
- ◆ Sexual harassment
- ◆ Access to professional health experts
- ◆ Mixed messages
- ◆ Prejudice
- ◆ Test-tube technology
- ◆ Role of sex in a relationship

### At KS4

- ◆ Hormones
- ◆ Sexual reproduction as a source of genetic variation
- ◆ How gender is determined
- ◆ Control and promotion of fertility
- ◆ Sexually transmitted diseases
- ◆ Relationships and marriage
- ◆ Access to professional health experts

## Implementing Sex and Relationship Education

### Post 16

- ◆ Sexually transmitted diseases
- ◆ Role of sex in a relationship
- ◆ Safe sex
- ◆ HIV/AIDS—visiting speakers
- ◆ Influence of other risk taking behaviour eg. Alcohol or Drugs

### Confidentiality

Teachers and other professionals will exercise discretion and judgement about how to deal with explicit issues raised by individual students. Care must be exercised in relation to contraceptive advice to under 16's for whom sexual intercourse is unlawful.

Teachers cannot offer or guarantee absolute confidentiality and at all times should encourage students to seek the advice of a health professional.



## Others who play their part

### Students

Students are taught to behave responsibly towards sex and relationship issues and be able to make informed decisions. They are also given access to confidential help.

### Parents

Parents/Guardians have the right to withdraw their students from all or part of any sex and relationship education provided, but not from the biological aspects of human growth necessary under National Curriculum Science requirements.

### School Nurse and Other Confidential Help

These experts are part of this programme to ensure students do have access to their help and they will not put students at risk of feeling exposed in front of others.

Please see below for Helpline number

The Acorn Pregnancy Counselling Centre  
01903 823893.