



SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

(Policy and Procedure for Sex and Relationship education)

Signed by:	
Head Teacher	
Chair of Governors	
Date Adopted	
Date of Review	September 2017

POLICY AIMS

The Governing Body and Head Teacher have consulted with parents, staff, pupils and members of the wider community in order to create this policy. Stakeholders should be involved in its development, as and when necessary. The policy has the following aims:

- to provide a description of how SRE is delivered, monitored and evaluated in the school;
- to set out the framework of values which guides the delivery of SRE and the wider pastoral care of pupils, and contributes towards the ethos of the school;
- to communicate young people's legal rights to seek confidential advice, support and treatment around their sexual health and also parents' legal right to withdraw their children from SRE;
- to describe how young people can be helped to access confidential help both within school and in the community.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT, DISSEMINATION AND REVIEW PROCESS

This policy was drafted by the senior pastoral manager in consultation with the PSHE co-ordinator, SEN co-ordinator, a parent representative, governor representative. Parents were given the opportunity to discuss the draft policy at a parents' evening and the teaching and non-teaching staff were able to discuss it at a staff training session. The policy was then ratified by the governing body.

The policy is made available to teaching and non-teaching staff, community partners and visitors to SRE via the PHSE Co-ordinator. A copy of the policy will be available on the Learning Platform.

The policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the named Senior Manager in consultation with the PHSE Co-ordinator and named Governor.

DEFINITION OF SRE

SRE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development and the importance of marriage, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. SRE also includes teaching about sex, sexuality and sexual health whilst not promoting any particular sexual orientation or early sexual activity.

VALUES FRAMEWORK

All those who teach aspects of SRE within school, including visitors, are expected to be guided by the following values framework which represents the values held in common by the whole school community. The teaching of SRE will encourage students to:

- Value and respect themselves
- Value and respect others for who they are, not for what they have or what they can do
- Value healthy sexual relationships which are based on mutual respect, care and goodwill
- Value and respect difference in people's religion, culture, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability and social background
- Value and respect their own and others' rights to make choices in sexual relationships after having accepted responsibility for considering the consequences of those choices
- Value stable and loving relationships for the nurturing of children and as the basis of a society in which people care for one another

The personal beliefs and attitudes of teachers will not influence the teaching of sex and relationship education in this school.

LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR SRE WITHIN THE SCHOOL

By the end of Key Stages 2 and 3 pupils will have had opportunities to gain knowledge and skills necessary to build and maintain healthy relationships including sexual relationships. They will also have considered their own and others' attitudes towards relationships and sex as they begin to develop positive values which will guide them in making healthy choices in their future relationships.

THE DELIVERY OF SRE IN THIS SCHOOL

SRE is co-ordinated by the PHSE Co-ordinator and is taught within the PSHE programme at Key Stages 2 and 3. Biological aspects of SRE are taught within the Science curriculum. SRE within PSHE is taught by non specialist subject teachers who are offered training annually from the Sexual Health Education Unit of Worcestershire NHS to enable them to build their knowledge and skills.

The teaching methods used follow established good practice and include small group work, active learning, discussion, and role play. Ground rules are used to establish a safe environment to facilitate discussions, and students are encouraged to reflect on their learning. The Key Stage 3 Sex and Relationship Education resource is produced by the Sexual Health Education Unit.

Students at Key Stages 2 and 3 receive a one hour period a week of PSHCE and, within that curriculum time, a proportion of time is allocated to SRE.

Visitors to school, such as health professionals and members of voluntary organisations, may be invited to contribute to SRE lessons. They will be expected to work within the values framework described within the policy. The PSHE co-ordinator will ensure that the visitors' contributions to lessons are in line with the learning outcomes of the school's SRE programme.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SRE

The PSHCE co-ordinator collects evidence for the monitoring and evaluation of the SRE programme by means of monitoring lesson plans and gathering feedback from teachers and students. Feedback is obtained from discussions with teachers and students. The PSHCE co-ordinator will hold an annual review meeting with the named Senior Manager and teachers in order to review the evidence and plan the next year's programme. Any staff development needs will also be identified.

LIAISON WITH FEEDER SCHOOLS

Via delivery of SRE to Year 5 with Swan Lane First School.

WITHDRAWAL OF STUDENTS FROM SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Parents are informed of their legal right to withdraw their child from SRE via a letter. Any parent wishing to withdraw their child is invited to make an appointment with the PHSE Co-ordinator to discuss the matter. Students cannot be withdrawn from any part of SRE which falls within the National Curriculum.

Any complaints about the content or delivery of SRE should be addressed to the Senior Manager.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Sex and relationship education in the school is guided by other school policies including the Equal Opportunities Policy, Bullying Policy and the County Guidelines on Safeguarding.

The school aims for all students to have equal access to the SRE curriculum and to sources of help and support. Students whose parents have withdrawn them from SRE are still entitled to receive information about how they can access confidential help and advice and they will be given a Worcestershire's Little Directory.

Objective discussion of the diversity of personal, social and sexual preference in relationships might take place in SRE and prejudiced views will be challenged in order to encourage tolerance. Any bullying around sexual behaviour or perceived sexual orientation arising from this prejudice will be dealt with as a serious matter.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Under the common law young people are entitled to the same duty of confidence as adults. Personal information about them should not be shared without their permission except for the purposes of safeguarding.

UNDER 16S' ENTITLEMENT TO CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH ADVICE AND TREATMENT

The School Nurse, and other health professionals follow guidelines which allow them to give advice and treatment to young people under 16 years old without the knowledge or consent of the parent/s if that is in the young person's best interests. They will, however, encourage the young person to talk to their parent/ carers. Only in cases where there is abuse or serious risk of harm would the health professional follow the safeguarding procedure and breach the young person's confidentiality. The young person would be kept fully informed at all stages of the procedure.

When the school nurse sees students on a one-to-one basis they will follow the above professional guidelines. In PSHE lessons, however, the nurse must follow the same guidelines as teachers.

SRE lessons will inform students of their entitlement to seek confidential help, including contraceptive and sexual health advice and treatment, and they will be taught about how they can access local services for this both inside and outside school. Students will each be given a Worcestershire's Little Directory during year 8.

CONFIDENTIALITY GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS

The use of ground rules in SRE should prevent the disclosure of personal information by students in the classroom. Students will be taught that teachers cannot guarantee confidentiality, but that the school nurse and other health professionals can guarantee confidentiality except in cases of abuse or serious harm.

DISCLOSURE OF UNDERAGE SEX

There may be occasions when a teacher learns that a student under 16 is having or contemplating having sexual intercourse. In this case the teacher should:

- a) Make sure the student is aware of the need to seek contraceptive and sexual health advice and knows how to get this.
- b) Encourage the student to talk to a parent.
- c) Decide whether there are safeguarding issues: underage sex or a suspected pregnancy is not, in themselves, child protection issues unless there is coercion or abuse. A teacher who is concerned that there may be coercion or abuse can discuss the case anonymously with the Senior Manager responsible for safeguarding. The Manager can advise whether they need to know the name of the student and whether the Safeguarding procedures need to be followed.

The Senior Manager will support the staff member in exercising his/her professional judgement about what is in the young person's best interests.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE IN SCHOOL

The school nurse will be available on an ad hoc basis or during bi weekly 'drop in' sessions. The nurse is able to offer all students confidential health advice and support on any issue. The school nurse works with tutors and the Senior Pastoral Manager, but she will not share personal information about students without their permission unless there are child protection concerns.

SUPPORT FOR PREGNANT TEENAGERS AND YOUNG FATHERS

Any student who is continuing with a pregnancy will be given time with the Head of Year to ensure she knows how she may continue her education within this school and if appropriate how she may continue in education. This discussion will include advice on benefits and child care as well as support from the County Specialist Support Service. The school nurse will help her to access antenatal and postnatal care.

The school will also be sensitive to the needs of young fathers ensuring support around behaviour of peers, and information on sources of advice on legal and other issues, for example Citizens' Advice Bureaux and Connexions.

PROCEDURE FOR SUPPORTING THOSE INFECTED WITH HIV OR HEPATITIS B OR C

Staff should not expect to be informed of a student's or colleague's HIV or Hepatitis status. A member of staff who is told of a student's blood borne viral status, should inform the Head Teacher and no one else. She/he will tell the student this is what they are doing. No student or member of staff will be discriminated against as a result of such a disclosure.

First aid and control of infection practice should always follow current County guidelines; this will protect all school members from infection with blood borne viruses.