



SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION (SRE) POLICY

REVIEW DATE: September 2010 (to be further reviewed in 3 years) subject to amendment/review by Governors

PERSON WITH OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY: Mr. J. Sellars, Headteacher

PSHE GOVERNOR: Mrs. L. Murray

PSHE CO-ORDINATOR: Mrs. B. Gwyther

CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATOR: Mrs. G. Taylor and if she is unavailable, the Headteacher, Mr. J. Sellars.

PURPOSE:

This policy defines the school's position with regards to sex and relationships education. It is directed at the whole school and the whole school community will be involved in implementing it. The policy sits in conjunction with the school's policies on Child Protection, Confidentiality, Diversity, Anti-Bullying and complaints procedure. The policy does not affect the rights of parents, carers or legal guardians who wish to withdraw their children from sex and relationships education (although the school would strongly discourage this). Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of SRE provided at the school, except for those parts included in the statutory National curriculum. Schools should make alternative arrangements in such cases (SRE Guidance, Dfes, July 2000)

RATIONALE

SRE supports the individual's lifelong learning about sex, sexuality, emotional wellbeing, relationships and sexual health. Embedded within the wider PSHCE curriculum it is intended to enable young people to acquire information, develop skills and form positive beliefs, values and attitudes that support them to move from adolescence to adulthood safely. Young people want reassurance about their body image, behaviours, feelings and relationships. They also need knowledge and skills appropriate to their level of maturity and development needs. Central to the SRE programme is the growth of self esteem and taking responsibility for one's self and one's actions. If young people feel positive and good about themselves, they are more likely to take care of themselves, think positively of other people, and therefore develop non-exploitative, caring relationships. They are also less likely to be exploited by others.

Sex and Relationships education is needed as

- Children and young people say they want to learn more about SRE

- Parents say that although they want to talk to their children about SRE, they also want schools to help them
- It is a legal requirement for schools to provide SRE
- SRE can make a positive contribution to children's and young peoples' personal and social development
- SRE can help to prevent negative health outcomes such as unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections

DEFINITION OF: - 'THE TEACHING OF SEX, SEXUALITY AND SEXUAL HEALTH'.

As required by the 1996 Education Act, and backed up by the HMI Report 433 and national curriculum guidance, schools are legally required to teach students about HIV / AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). The protection that some forms of contraception offer against STIs will inevitably form a part of this teaching. However SRE can never be a subject taught entirely by 'experts', but it is a function of the entire curriculum. Specific elements will be taught in Biology, RE, PSHE and by external agencies such as the Youth Service. However, it is likely that all teachers will at sometime be involved.

OBJECTIVES FOR THE DELIVERY OF SRE

- To generate an atmosphere where questions of a sexual nature can be asked and answered openly without embarrassment and trust and confidentiality are ensured.
- To enable students to develop knowledge, communication skills and understanding in order to facilitate personal decision-making.
- To enable students to understand the impact of external factors, such as the media, Internet, peer groups and remain independent decision-makers.
- To enable students to develop the ability to form positive, non-exploitative relationships
- To enable students to be aware of personal, psychological, emotional and physical changes in themselves and others
- To enable students to understand the process of human reproduction
- To enable students to acquire the skills to judge the kind of relationship they want
- To enable students to have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves and their partner from unintended or unwanted conceptions, and sexually transmitted infections including HIV and Hepatitis C
- Avoid being exploited or exploiting others
- Understand the arguments for delaying sexual activity and to realise that abstinence is perfectly acceptable
- To emphasise the role and the value of family life
- To enable students to know what is and what is not legal in matters relating to sexual activity
- To inform students of where they can go for further information and advice both locally, nationally and on the internet

Through the delivery of SRE young people will be supported to:

- Develop respect for oneself and other people
- Learn to take responsibility for one's actions in all situations
- Develop honesty and loyalty in relationships
- Learn the importance and responsibilities of the family unit for all members
- Develop sensitivity towards the needs and views of others
- Recognise the physical, emotional and moral implications and risks of certain behaviours
- Recognise and accept the differences of others

GUIDELINES:

1) The Delivery of SRE

SRE is always taught with due regard to moral and legal considerations and within the explicit values of family life and supportive relationships. SRE will be delivered in Years 7 to 11 by a variety of approaches, using either:

- Accredited teacher OR trained staff with supportive lesson material
- Trained health professionals (to include the youth services and school nurse)

SRE within the school curriculum will be delivered using a wide variety of teaching and learning methods and strategies and will be supported by a wide range of up to date, appropriate resources. All will be appropriate to the ages of the students involved and to the issues being addressed, and will be delivered as far as possible by confident staff, outside agencies and in some cases by young people (with guidance). A team of trained youth workers will deliver a four hour module on particular aspects of SRE to students in Years 8 and 9, two follow-up sessions in Year 10 with one final session prior to leaving in Year 11

2) CHILD PROTECTION.

The school follows the guidelines and procedures outlined by the North Lincs. area Child Protection Committee. Any concerns should be addressed to the Child Protection Co-ordinator in the first instance and if she is not in school, to the assistant Child Protection Co-ordinator. This should be done as soon as possible. **Staff cannot promise confidentiality to the student. It is not up to staff to investigate the matter. Staff who suspect abuse must see the Child Protection Co-ordinator before the end of school, as the student needs to be seen before they go home to their guardians.**

3) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HEAD TEACHER.

The Head Teacher will need to coordinate with the Governors to ensure that SRE is being taught within its legal requirement.

The Head teacher will need to develop suitable procedures for dealing with a parent request for the withdrawal of their child from sex education lessons, and decided upon suitable alternative arrangements to be made for the supervision or teaching of any students in that position.

4) RESPONSIBILITY AND INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

The school realises that the prime responsibility of bringing up the child rests with their parent or guardian. The school also appreciates that parents and guardians are key figures in helping their children to cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up and preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities that maturity brings. The teaching offered by the school is complementary and supportive to the role of the parents and guardians. If this is recognised, then those responsible should be less likely to use their right to withdraw their child from sex education lessons.

5) CONFIDENTIALITY BETWEEN STAFF AND STUDENTS

Whilst in all years, students' questions will be answered honestly and frankly. Ground rules should be set by staff in order to prevent students from talking about named individuals. Students need to be informed that the classroom teachers cannot guarantee confidentiality. **Confidentiality must not be promised** and if a student disclosed information, the Child Protection coordinator should be informed.

6) PROCEDURES FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The school realises the important role of the Health Service professionals as being able to play a crucial complementary role to that of the classroom teacher, in:

- relation to young peoples' health, as well as being a welcome extra source of information.
- voluntary organisations also provide useful information, resources and guidance.
- the school will educate students how to use the outside services provided for them, as part of the sex education programme.
- the school will obtain relevant leaflets containing basic information, e.g. on contraceptives, STIs and will distribute them to the relevant age groups, in the context of the appropriate lesson.
- the PHSE Coordinator will 'interview' new speakers before they attend a lesson so that the ethos of the school's sex education policy is explained and promoted.
- the school nurse regularly visits the school, and works closely with parents and relevant staff who may need to be informed of certain

information pertaining to a particular child. The school nurse should also be aware of the school SRE policy.

- The school nurse runs a weekly drop in clinic and will give appropriate advice on a wide range of issues to young people who ask for it and will liaise with the school as appropriate.
- Choices 'drop-in' at school during Tuesday lunchtimes.

7) HELPFUL ADDRESSES.

Health Promotion Unit

Ashby Clinic Annex
Collum Lane
Ashby
DN16 2SZ
Telephone 01724 296617

Sexual Health Clinic (Scunthorpe Hospital)

Telephone 01724 290008
An appointment isn't needed, but waits can be long. There is a special clinic for under 21's on a Thursday from 3.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. but it is advised that people phone for an appointment on a Wednesday afternoon.

NHS Direct

Free phone Telephone 0845 46 47
Information and guides to local services

Healthy Schools Consultant For North Lincolnshire

Lynne Devine
Based at the EDC, South Leys Campus.
Telephone 01724 297948

Sexwise

A free confidential telephone helpline for teenagers. Operates from 7 a.m. to midnight to answer teenagers' questions about sex and relationships

www.likeitis

A useful website for teenagers of all ages.

National HIV/AIDS Helpline

A 24 hour helpline offering confidential advice on any aspect of HIV/AIDS
Freephone 0800 555 777

R. Clayton
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