

SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Introduction

The aim of Sex Education in the school is to provide each student during his/her education with the facts of reproduction and associated topics, including relationships, and at the same time to encourage a responsible and Christian attitude to these issues. The methods used to convey the subject matter are vitally important if we are to ensure the development of a responsible attitude. The issues are developed in several subject areas, and as a part of the Personal and Social Education (PSE) programme. Underlying all of this is the Church's teaching on the importance of the family, the sanctity of marriage and Christian standards in our attitudes to others.

Brief Description of Sex Education

We believe Sex Education is relevant and appropriate to the lives of young people, regardless of their family background or sexuality. The positive qualities of relationships, such as trust, honesty, and commitment, should be stressed, rather than the promotion of one form of sexual relationship or sexual orientation.

We think Sex Education is an integral part of the lifelong learning process, beginning in early childhood and continuing into adult life. We believe it should encourage personal and social development, fostering self-esteem, self-awareness, a Christian sense of moral responsibility, and the confidence and ability to resist abuse and unwanted sexual experience.

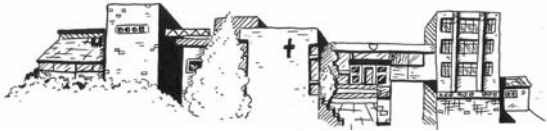
Rights of Withdrawal

Opportunities exist throughout the statutory curriculum to provide Sex Education. The school would prefer parents to play a part in this sometimes sensitive area, by being informed and involved in the development of the school's programme so they can continue discussions at home. However, in the event of any parent or guardian wishing to withdraw their child, they are asked to inform the Head teacher in writing. In the event of this happening the parent /guardian will be invited to attend a meeting to discuss any concerns with the school. Following this discussion any parent or guardian still wishing to exercise their rights to withdraw their child should be reassured that appropriate alternative arrangements would be agreed and organised by the college.

Organisation

Mr M Sellers is presently the staff member who has the designated coordinator role for Sex Education. Our school's link governor for Sex Education is Rev'd B Andrews. We have a dedicated team who deliver lessons in Sex Education, including provision from outside agencies, with aspects also delivered in science and religious education, promoting a whole school approach to emotional and social development. Science staff, following National Curriculum guidelines will provide statutory requirements.

Adopted 2007
Reviewed 2012
Next Review 2015



Aspects including work about human sexual behaviour, relationships, HIV/AIDS and self-esteem will be delivered age appropriately, within the PSE framework. We work closely with specialist outside agencies to provide an up-to date appropriate programme.

Statement about Sensitive Issues

When questions arise in Sex Education sessions about sensitive issues, they will be answered appropriately and where necessary, referrals made to appropriate outside or specialist agencies and or parents, for continued support and follow up. If child protection issues arise the schools Child Protection procedures will be initiated (see Child Protection Policy).

When outside agencies provide classroom sessions they must be aware of and follow the confidentiality policy of the school.

Working with Parents

The policy is available for inspection by parents, upon request and on site access. Information regarding Sex Education content will be made available to parents by letter prior to the commencement of the course. Designated persons available for provision of advice to parents are the PSE Co-ordinator: Miss J Eccles, and the Deputy Headteacher – Student Services: Mrs C Weatherall.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Pupils' evaluation will take place at the end of each module. These results will inform teaching strategies and enhance future programmes. The PSE Coordinator and staff will review the course annually, and parents are encouraged to contribute to this process.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Child Protection Policy and the Anti-bullying Policy.