

## **SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY**

Version 2.0

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Reviewer:	Chris Drugan
Governor Link:	Chair of People

# SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

East Barnet School, Chestnut Grove, East Barnet, EN4 8PU

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## A. Introduction

1. Sex and Relationship Education supports the School's ethos of aiming to produce self-reflective, confident and articulate young people at ease in the world. We work to make our community safe and welcoming, happy and supportive and acknowledge the importance of Sex and Relationship Education's role in supporting every student's physical, emotional and moral development and as a school share a common commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.
2. Young people learn about sex and relationships from a very young age. Some of the things they learn are incorrect, confusing and frightening. In a world where sex is used to advertise goods and services and celebrities lives become everyone's business, we should talk to and engage with young people to help them to make sense of it all.
3. In addition, rates of teenage pregnancy, abortion and sexually transmitted infection in the UK are among the highest of all European countries. Alongside other initiatives, we believe that our approach to, and the teaching of Sex and Relationship Education, provide students with appropriate information. This includes opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills required to enable them to make wise choices; being more discerning in their relationships and sexual behaviours; and to have fulfilling relationships.
4. Our Sex and Relationship Education provision is in line with the strategy and information in DfE "Sex and Relationship Guidance 2000".

## B. Statement of Principles

5. Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is an educational entitlement of all students and an essential part of each student's personal development from adolescence into adulthood.
6. The SRE programme must provide the knowledge and develop the understanding necessary to make informed and positive choices during adolescence and adulthood.
7. The SRE programme must aim to develop the skills and attitudes which are required to enable students to form mutually supportive relationships with friends, members of their family and sexual partners, and to manage their adult lives in a responsible and healthy way.

## C. Requirements

### 8. The School's Sex and Relationship programme must allow students to:

- 8.1. Acquire the knowledge and understanding necessary to appreciate how the reproductive parts of their bodies work and change during the various phases of physical development;
- 8.2. Understand the process of reproduction, including the physical and emotional aspects of sexual relationships;
- 8.3. Acquire the knowledge and understanding necessary to make informed choices regarding the use of contraception;
- 8.4. Understand the nature of sexually transmitted diseases and how to avoid them;

- 8.5. Explore and develop an awareness of the implications of marriage and stable relationships as key foundations of community and society;
- 8.6. Build the skills, personal qualities and values necessary to develop respect for themselves and others;
- 8.7. Build the skills, personal qualities and values necessary to prevent and remove prejudice, and encourage tolerance;
- 8.8. Increase their understanding of human sexuality and the reasons for and benefits of delaying sexual activity;
- 8.9. Learn that some sexual behaviour is inappropriate;
- 8.10. Become aware of the responsibilities and experiences of parenthood.

## **9. Confidentiality**

- 9.1. It may happen that students wish to disclose information about their actual or intended sexual behaviour and/or seek advice from members of school staff. 'Staff' will be taken to include teachers, support staff, and any other adult who is supporting the school in the delivery of its curriculum and the care of students.
- 9.2. Under such circumstances, the relevant member of staff must make it clear to students that some information cannot be kept confidential, and that if certain disclosures are made the school may have to involve outside agencies.
- 9.3. This will be particularly relevant in cases where students are engaging in or intending to engage in sexual activity below the legal age of consent (16) or in any case where the member of staff may judge the student to be at risk.
- 9.4. Students will be offered sensitive and appropriate support in the event of such disclosures. Further details can be found in the school's Child Protection Policy.
- 9.5. On certain occasions, particularly where there may be issues of child protection, the school will take appropriate action on the basis of received information from other sources, for example, from other students.

## **10. Partnership with Parents and Carers**

- 10.1. Under the Education Act 1993, parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from the sex education programme with the exception of those parts of the programme taught as part of the statutory National Curriculum orders for Science.
- 10.2. The SRE policy is available to parents/carers when their child enters the school and can be viewed on the school's website.
- 10.3. Parents/carers wishing to exercise their right to withdraw their child are advised to contact the PSHEE coordinator to discuss any issues of concern.
- 10.4. Alternative arrangements will be made by the Head of Year for any child who is withdrawn from SRE. Once a student has been withdrawn, he/she cannot take part in later Sex and Relationship Education lessons without their parents' approval.
- 10.5. Any enquiries about the Sex and Relationship Education curriculum should initially be made in writing to the Head of PSHEE.

## **11. Policy monitoring and review**

- 11.1. The school's Sex and Relationship Policy will be reviewed annually by the Head of PSHEE before being submitted to the School's Governing Body for amendment and adoption prior to publication.

11.2. This review involves evaluating the effectiveness of the programme of study by seeking the opinions and views of both students and teaching staff. A questionnaire is completed by students and a group discussion with a selection of students and staff, facilitated by the Head of PSHEE, aims to provide an opportunity to discuss in further detail highlighted issues.

11.3. Teaching staff are informed of subsequent amendments to the programme of study and additional training is identified and delivered if required; and with the support of external professionals and agencies if necessary.

## **D. Delivery of Sex & Relationship Education Programme**

12. Sex and Relationships Education is delivered through the PSHEE programme of study and through the compulsory Science curriculum (see appendix 1).

13. SRE is co-coordinated by the Head of PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education) who is responsible for planning, implementing and reviewing the programme.

14. The SRE topics are delivered within the PSHEE curriculum by teachers, trained professionals from external providers as well as staff from Barnet and Chase Farm Hospital NHS Trust. The school also works in partnership sexual health professionals from the London Borough of Barnet to deliver workshops on sexual health and education about contraception to students in Years 9 and 10. See Appendix 3 for all module titles.

15. All staff and visitors are expected to teach within the framework of the school's Learning and Teaching Policy, as well as the SRE policy. Teachers also work within the guidelines of other school policies which have relevance to SRE, in particular, Equal Opportunities, Anti-Bullying, and Child Protection.

## **E. Appendices**

Appendix 1 Science lessons.

Appendix 2 Personal Social Health and Emotional Education (PSHEE) Lessons

**In Science, students will learn about these ‘sex and relationship’ topics:**

**1. At Key Stage Three (age 11- 14)**

- 1.1. That fertilisation in humans is the fusion of a male and a female sex cell.
- 1.2. About the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence.
- 1.3. About the human reproductive system, including the menstrual cycle and fertilisation.
- 1.4. How the foetus develops in the uterus.
- 1.5. How growth and introduction of bacteria and the reproduction of viruses can affect health.

**2. At Key Stage Four (age 14-16)**

- 2.1. The way in which hormonal control occurs, including the effects of sex hormones.
- 2.2. Some medical use of hormones, including the control and promotion of fertility.
- 2.3. The defence mechanism of the body.
- 2.4. How gender is determined in humans.

**1. In PSHEE, students will learn about these ‘sex and relationship’ topics:**

Attitudes and Values	Personal and Social Skills	Knowledge and Understanding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations.</li> <li>• Learning the value of family life, marriage and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children.</li> <li>• Learning the value of respect, love and care.</li> <li>• Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas.</li> <li>• Developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively.</li> <li>• Developing self-respect and empathy for others.</li> <li>• Learning to make choices bases on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice.</li> <li>• Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made.</li> <li>• Managing conflict.</li> <li>• Learning how to avoid exploitation and abuse.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages.</li> <li>• Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships.</li> <li>• Learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support service.</li> <li>• Learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, the benefits to be gained from such delay.</li> <li>• The avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.</li> </ul>

**2. Other areas of the SRE curriculum will be delivered through the appropriate stages of the PSHEE programme at KS3 and KS4, including:**

- 2.1. Personal safety and managing risk. Including information about the importance of guarding their identity and image when using the internet.
- 2.2. Values and beliefs
- 2.3. Family life and relationships
- 2.4. Sex and the Law
- 2.5. Prejudice and stereotyping
- 2.6. Abortion
- 2.7. Friendship and love
- 2.8. Safe sex
- 2.9. Gender issues
- 2.10. Sexual lifestyles
- 2.11. Sexually transmitted infections
- 2.12. Life stages
- 2.13. Seeking help
- 2.14. Early parenting
- 2.15. Social interaction: Raising awareness of medical conditions to help create a positive environment (see Medical Conditions policy).
- 2.16. E Safety
- 2.17. Exposure to internet pornography and its effect on relationships