



## RELATIONSHIPS SEX AND HEALTH POLICY

Last Review: November 2020  
Date Ratified: 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
Next Review: October 2023

### Rationale

Sir William Romney's believes that sex and relationships education is an educational entitlement for all students and an integral part of each student's transition into adulthood. The aim of this policy is to communicate to governors, staff, parents/carers, visitors and students the manner in which sex and relationships education will be delivered at Sir William Romney's School in accordance with the law.

### Aims

We aim:

1. To teach young people to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others.
2. To enable young people to mature, building their confidence and self-esteem.
3. To explore the reasons for delaying sexual activity.
4. To build up knowledge and skills to empower them to deal with conflicting pressures (e.g. peer pressure), that emphasise respect and consideration for others.
5. To provide age appropriate lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. This will include teaching about sex, sexual health and sexuality.
6. To encourage young people to seek advice and guidance from the sources inside school and outside support agencies with regard to all aspects of sex and relationships.

### Content

Sex and Relationships Education provides knowledge and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes, which allows pupils to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way.

#### Knowledge and Understanding:

Knowledge and understanding will be provided on puberty, personal safety, friendship and love, relationships, gender identity, conception and birth processes, contraception, HIV and Aids and sexually transmitted infections, sexual lifestyles, early parenting, different faiths and cultures, prejudice and stereotyping, sex and the law and genetic inheritance.

#### Values and Beliefs:

As well as knowledge and information pupils will be encouraged to consider the importance of the following values:

- Confidence: Having the confidence to make healthy age appropriate decisions around relationships.
- Independence: To be able to make independent, mature, well thought through informed decisions around relationships. Taking responsibility for their own actions.
- Collaboration: To know where to seek advice, information and guidance around relationships. As well as showing understanding and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others.
- Resilience: Recognise and use opportunities to develop a healthy approach to relationships and sex.
- Aspiration: As a school we will provide pupils with a high-quality sex and relationships education, applying best practice appropriately.

### Skills and Abilities:

Pupils will be helped to develop the following skills:

- Communication
- Assertiveness
- Decision Making
- Recognising and using opportunities to develop a healthy lifestyle

### Delivery is through:

- Devoted personal development lessons and complemented by other areas of the curriculum.
- Planned aspects of Science and RE.
- Working with external partners to offer quality teaching where required.
- Addressing moral, ethical and social issues, which may arise from apparently unrelated topics in all National Curriculum subjects. Within this category, as long as any discussion takes place within the context of the subject it will not be deemed to be part of the sex and relationships programme and therefore not subject to the parental right of withdrawal.

### Confidentiality and advice:

When the need arises, pupils will be offered appropriate and sensitive support. At the same time pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidentially, and the usual safeguarding route will be followed. All adults will adhere to the following procedures:

- Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse, pregnancy and need for contraception – the school's child protection procedures will be invoked.

### Parental Partnership:

Parents/Guardians cannot withdraw their child from Health Education or the Relationships Education element of Relationships and Sex Education, because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

If parents/guardians do not want your child to take part in some or all of the Sex Education lessons they can ask that they are withdrawn. To do this parents/guardians must put their request in writing to the Headteacher. This will then be considered on a case by case basis and may be granted in exceptional circumstances, up until three school terms before the child turns 16. At this age, the child can choose to receive Sex Education if they would like to, and the school will arrange for the child to receive this teaching in one of those three terms (unless there are exceptional circumstances).

The science curriculum also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.