



SEX & RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

Last Review: September 2016
Committee: Learning
Date Ratified: 6th October 2016
Next Review: September 2019

Rationale

Sir William Romney's believes that sex 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 education will be delivered at Sir William Romney's, in accordance with the law.

Aims

We aim:

1. To encourage students to adopt healthy lifestyles in order to be physically, mentally and emotionally healthy.
2. To provide a safe environment for students and to support them to stay safe both inside and outside of school: safe from bullying and discrimination, and safe from crime and anti-social behaviour. The school will work with other agencies to ensure that children are cared for.
3. To encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour.
4. To develop self esteem.
5. To emphasis respect and consideration for others.
6. To provide support and information for young people and their parents/guardians.
7. To provide a basic knowledge about sexual health and human development together with an opportunity to consider the values and attitudes around sexual health issues.
8. To build on the knowledge gained at Key Stage 2.
9. To acknowledge the role that the parent/guardian may play and to work in partnership with them.
10. To encourage students to seek advice and guidance from the sources inside school and outside support agencies.

Content

Sex Education provides knowledge and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes, which allows students 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, family life and relationships, gender issues, conception and birth processes, contraception, HIV and Aids and sexually transmitted diseases, sexual lifestyles, early parenting, different faiths and cultures, prejudice and stereotyping, sex and the law, genetic inheritance.

Values and Beliefs:

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

- Respect and valuing of themselves and others
- Understanding and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others
- Responsibility for their own actions
- Responsibility to the school community, their family and the wider community

Skills and Abilities:

Students will be helped to develop the following skills:

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

Delivery is through:

- Planned aspects within Science, PD and Religious Studies.
- 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 education programme and therefore not subject to the parental right of withdrawal.

Confidentiality and advice:

When the need arises, students will be offered appropriate and sensitive support. At the same time students will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential and made to understand that if certain disclosures are made certain actions will ensue. All adults will adhere to the following procedures:

- Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse – **the school's child protection procedures** will be invoked.
- Disclosure of pregnancy or advice on contraception – it is hoped that the following procedure will ensure that students know that they can talk to an adult in the school and that they will be supported:
 1. Professional information and guidance will always be sought from a health professional where possible.
 2. The school will always encourage students to talk with their parents/carers first.

Students should be asked whether they can tell their parents/carers and whether they want help in doing so. If this takes place subsequent responsibility then lies with the parents/carers.

Parental partnership:

Under the Education Act 1993 parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme. Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to write to the Headteacher. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in later sex education without parental approval.