



SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION (SRE) POLICY

Principles

The young people of Sturminster Newton High School are entitled to responsible and relevant sexual health education as a key element of their personal and sexual education. 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 SRE 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 sense of moral responsibility, and the confidence and ability to resist abuse and unwanted sexual experience.

Aims

- To promote understanding of sexual attitudes and behaviour.
- To assist in the development of reasoned, informed and responsible decision making.
- To develop in students, feelings of worth, self-esteem and self-confidence as a Basis for responsible and caring relationships.
- To ensure knowledge of relevant law.
- To assist young people to be positive and confident about the physical, emotional and moral aspects of sexual maturity.

Rights of Withdrawal

Opportunities exist throughout the statutory curriculum to provide SRE. The school would prefer parents to play a part in this sometimes sensitive area, by being informed and involved in the development of the schools programme so they can continue discussions at home. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or any part of the School Sex Education Programme, except where indicated as part of the National Curriculum Science Orders or where discussion might arise naturally in other lessons outside the planned Programme. Where parents express a desire to exercise their right, they will be invited to the School to share their concern and to view the contents and materials which are used by staff in delivering the programme. Following this discussion any parent or carer still wishing to exercise their rights to withdraw their child should be re assured that appropriate alternative arrangements would be agreed and organised by the school.

Practice

- Aspects of SEAL are used to help students develop social and emotional skills.
- **Year 7** Basic learning on puberty, courtship, reproductive systems, menstrual cycle, sexual intercourse, pregnancy and birth.
- **Year 8** Delay and Contraception delivered by outside Agencies – Public Health Practitioners (Schools) (PHPS)
- **Year 9** Religious attitudes to sex. Puberty and hormonal and development changes. Moral issues: abortion, contraception. Contraception (PHPS)
- **Year 10** Respect yourself (positive relationships) Menstrual cycle, IVF fertility. Sexual Health Update (PHPS)
- **Year 11** - Science - genetics, and genetic diseases. RE – relationships, sanctity of life, abortion, fertility treatment, contraception. Sexual Health Update
- **GCSE**
Child Development – conception, development of foetus, infertility, contraception, birth, responsibilities of parenthood.

NB Issues dealing with sexual health may occur in other subjects, and at different times, and all staff need to be aware of the content of the Sex and Relationships Education Policy.

Organisation

Mrs Miles and Mrs Quickfall are presently the staff members who have the designated coordinator role for SRE. Our schools link governor for SRE is Mrs Hughes. School staff along with outside agencies deliver lessons with some aspects delivered in Science and RE promoting a whole school approach to emotional and social development. Science staff, following National Curriculum guidelines will provide statutory requirements (See County SRE Guidance). Aspects including work about human sexual behaviour, relationships, HIV/AIDS and self-esteem will be delivered age appropriately, within the PSHE framework. We have achieved targets set by the Healthy Schools Scheme. We work closely with specialist outside agencies to provide an up-to date appropriate programme.

Statement about Sensitive Issues

When questions arise in SRE 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. We have on school site support from the Public Health Practitioner (schools). 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, via the schools website and on site access. Information regarding SRE content will be made available at parent's evenings. Designated persons' available for provision of advice to parents are the PHSE Co-ordinator: the School Nurse.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Pupils' evaluation will take place using a Dorset wide method of evaluation (see SRE Guidance). These results will inform teaching strategies and enhance future programmes.

The SRE team and governor will meet regularly to discuss issues and allow time for CPD. Parents will be consulted annually during the revision of this policy and opportunity to discuss issues related to SRE will be available at parents' evenings, or directly via the PSHE coordinator.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the schools Safeguarding Policy, Child Protection Procedures, anti-bullying Policy and the County SRE Guidance.

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Produced by: Mrs E Miles