



**Jack Hunt School Governing Body (Trust)**



# **SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY**

Governing Body Committee	Approved Achievement Committee 14 November 2017
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## Jack Hunt School Governing Body (Trust)

# SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

### Principles:

What is sex and relationship education? It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion or sexual orientation or sexual activity – this would be inappropriate teaching. Effective sex and relationship education is firmly rooted within the framework for PDE (Personal Development Education) and National Curriculum DfEE guidance.

### Aims of Sex and Relationships Education

- Attitudes and Values
  - Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations,
  - Learning the value of family life, marriage, and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children,
  - Learning the value of respect, love and care,
  - Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas, and
  - Development critical thinking as part of decision-making.
- Personal and Social Skills
  - Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively,
  - Developing self-respect and empathy for others,
  - Learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice,
  - Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made,
  - Managing conflict, and
  - Learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.
- Knowledge and Understanding
  - Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
  - Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships,
  - Learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services,
  - Learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay, and
  - The avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

### Objectives of Sex and Relationships Education

That students will understand:

- Physical, moral and emotional development.
- The way our bodies work, change and the emotional and physiological differences between the sexes, menstruation and reproduction.
- The nature and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and Aids.
- The range, operation and effectiveness of contraceptive strategies.
- The nature and implications of abortion.

- The need to become skilful in the communication of sexual matters, resisting unwanted pressures, negotiating safe behaviour and thinking beyond the immediate consequences of their actions.
- The availability of statutory and voluntary organisations that can offer support in human relationships.

### **The Underlying Framework of Moral Values**

The Education Act 1996 [Section 403] states that:

‘The Governing Body and the Headteacher shall take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that where sex education is given to any registered students at the school it is given in such a manner as to encourage those students to have due regard to moral considerations to the value of family life.’

In line with the whole school ethos the following moral values are upheld in SRE education:

- Sexuality is an integral part of being human and is not defined solely in terms of sexual acts.
- Sexual intercourse has its proper context in a loving long-term relationship, ideally in the context of a lifelong marriage partnership.
- Students have a right to say No and a decision not to be sexually active is a positive one.
- Parents of students may hold a variety of religious, moral and cultural views and these will be respected and presented fairly.

Sexual and Relationship education is developmental, beginning in infancy and is delivered through the home and school. It is about relating to other people, respecting the rights and feelings of others and developing responsible and caring relationships.

### **How Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is provided**

SRE is co-ordinated by the Curriculum Area Leader for PDE and is taught within the PDE programme for Key Stages 3 and 4. Biological aspects of SRE are taught within the Science Curriculum. Some moral issues and aspects relating to marriage are taught with RPE (Religion, Philosophy and Ethics). Online protection issues are delivered at the start of each year during IT lessons. SRE within PDE is taught by a specialist team of trained teaching staff and external providers. Delivery will be in mixed gender teaching groups with some provision for single sex teaching if appropriate.

Those students who would benefit from a differentiated and bespoke programme of study will be identified through discussion with the Assistant Headteacher for Student Wellbeing, Curriculum Area Leader for PDE and parents. Delivery will be given by trained inclusion staff.

# SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION PRACTICE

## Content and Organisation:

### Personal Development Education (PDE)

Students have a one hour long lesson of PDE weekly throughout Key Stages 3 and fortnightly throughout Key Stages 4. It is taught by a team of specialist teachers who work closely with Peterborough LA PDE team.

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is covered in:

- Year 7 'Body Image' and 'Puberty'.
- Year 8 'Relationships', 'Friendship' and 'Self-esteem'.
- Year 9 'Emotional Health', 'Relationships', 'Peer Pressure' 'Homophobic Bullying', 'Delay and being safe in relationships' and 'Managing risky behaviour'.
- Year 10 'Sexuality', 'Parenthood' and 'Keeping safe'.
- Year 11 'Positive relationship behaviour', 'Contraception', 'STIs' and 'Domestic abuse'.

PDE lessons are delivered using a wide range of appropriate materials, including videos, role play, class discussions and worksheets. Visiting speakers are used to address the issues of menstruation, sexual health and contraception. A good practice guide is in place for the effective use of visiting speakers. All lessons are values-based and reflect the ethos of the school in their emphasis on personal development.

- This will be monitored by the PDE CAL in conjunction with the Local Authority.

**Other curriculum areas:** Science, SEAL, RE, History, English and Drama Geography also cover the area of sex and relationships.

- Senior Leader for Welfare and Guidance to conduct student voice on a termly basis.

All lessons are taught in mixed sex groups.

The content of the programme of study follows the guidelines laid out in the DfEE document 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' ref DfEE 0116/2000.

### Issues Arising

The DfEE document 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' issued July 2000 (ref. DfEE 0116/2000) contains information in its Section 2 on specific sensitive issues.

The school curriculum sets out how sex and relationship education will be provided. It is however inevitable that related issues will emerge in other lessons from time to time. The following section contains relevant guidance on teaching strategies from the DfEE document mentioned in the paragraph above.

#### *Section 4 – part 4.3 – Ground Rules*

*A set of ground rules will help teachers create a safe environment in which they do not feel embarrassed or anxious about unintended or unexpected questions or comments from students. Ground rules might be developed as part of the school's sex and relationship education policy or individual with each class or year group. For example, no teacher or student will have to answer a personal question; no-one will be forced to take part in a discussion; only the correct names for the parts of the body will be used; and meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way.*

- Staff will not give advice on contraception but may give the address of an advice centre or refer a student to the school nurse. Staff can however, teach the facts about contraception, without giving advice.
- Disclosure or suspicion of sexual abuse will be dealt with through the school's child protection procedure.
- Staff will not promise confidentiality. Disclosure will lead to consequences and students should be made aware of this at the start of any discussion.
- If a disclosure is made to a member of staff, the member of staff should then refer to the Safer Care Code of Conduct and Safeguarding policy/training.
- In the event of a pregnancy, the school, in liaison with the student, her parents and other relevant outside agencies will ensure that an appropriate venue is provided for the student's continuing education.
- Issues such as contraception, HIV / AIDS, STIs and abortion will be dealt with in a factual, objective and sensitive way. Students will be encouraged to form their own opinions and to respect the rights of others who hold different views.

### **Related Policy Matters**

- (i) Equal Opportunities – All students will be offered the same opportunity to benefit from the S.R.E. programme.
- (ii) Parental Withdrawal – Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Sex Education that falls outside the National Curriculum. If a parent wishes to withdraw a child the school must be notified. Parents will be invited to explain their reasons for withdrawal. Arrangements must be made in such a way as to minimise any embarrassment to the student and to ensure there is no disruption to other elements of their education.