

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

At James Brindley School, Sex and Relationship Education is concerned with the physical, emotional, social, cultural, moral, intellectual and spiritual development of young people. The importance of stable loving relationships based upon respect, trust, love and care is emphasised within the context of a modern changing society. The programme encourages the personal development of the individual as well as integrating The Every Child Matters Outcomes/SMSC Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural. The Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education Guidance 2007 and the school's Safeguarding Statement 2010 supports the overall ethos of curriculum delivery. This policy has been written using the original guidance found in the legislation of the Education Act 1996 and the Learning Skills Act of 2000. The school has enhanced Healthy School Status. This policy has recently been reviewed following the Ofsted report of 2012 (published in 2013) Personal, Social and Health Education in English Schools.

The teaching of SRE remains a complex situation as the 1996 and 2000 legislation makes it a statutory requirement for some parts of sex education to be taught to all pupils of primary and secondary age through the Science curriculum (biological aspects of puberty, reproduction and the spread of viruses). There is also a separate requirement for secondary schools to teach about HIV, Aids and sexually transmitted infections to secondary aged pupils. The broader topics of sex and relationships contained in the PSHE non statutory guidance are therefore not compulsory but are strongly recommended. The coalition government outlined their continued commitment to SRE in their 2010 Schools White Paper 'The importance of Teaching'

AIMS

- To promote a knowledge and understanding of physical and emotional development.
- To increase awareness of individual behaviours and respect for those within relationships
- To encourage growth of personal development that increases self-esteem, confidence and positive self image.
- To help pupils develop the skills needed to manage risk avoiding high-risk behaviours
- To promote responsible action within relationships accepting that actions have consequences for self and others
- To help pupils balance risk and pleasure within the legal boundaries
- To develop assertiveness skills and how to negotiate their way through difficult situations
- To promote a positive attitude towards the range of sexual orientation within relationships whilst understanding the similarities and differences between people
- To develop understanding of the roles and responsibilities of parents, carers, children and other family members
- To promote the importance of parenting skills and their central importance to family life
- To safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils

OBJECTIVES

- To inform pupils about the processes of puberty, sexual intercourse and human reproduction and to present them with factual information about sexual health
- To present up- to-date and age appropriate factual information objectively and with sensitivity so that pupils from all backgrounds receive appropriate guidance
- To develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviours
- To enable pupils to be assertive, to make well informed , reasonable and responsible choices
- To understand the arguments for delaying sexual activity
- To enable pupils to demonstrate positive approaches in their relationships to develop confidence in themselves and respect towards others
- To provide knowledge about loving relationships and the importance of a stable family life
- To discuss the nature and range of sexuality in society whilst respecting the diversity of others
- To demonstrate to pupils how to use information effectively to discuss values and beliefs without embarrassment, offence or prejudice
- To develop pupils' research skills to locate and interpret information from a range of sources
- To ensure that pupils know how and where to access additional support if needed
- To identify high risk behaviours that could lead to unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections or risks to personal safety of self and others
- To give guidance to inappropriate sexual behaviours(age related)
- To understand that in some relationships domestic violence and other types of abuse will put individuals at risk and there are support mechanisms to help victims
- To ensure pupils to understand the legal position regarding the age of consent, safe sex, acceptable behaviour and confidentiality
- To understand what is meant by sexual exploitation whether at home, in the community or on the internet

PROCESSES

- The content and method of delivery will follow guidance from the Department of Education and the Department of Health
- Primary pupils will be taught SRE through Science, Literacy and the foundation subjects

- Secondary pupils will be taught SRE through Science separate PSHE lessons, although it is recognised that all subjects will have embedded the Every Child Matters philosophy/SMSC and the safeguarding of pupils
- A range of teaching methods and strategies will be used that encourage open discussion within a supportive learning environment based upon a set of agreed ground rules.
- Resources, CPD and teacher support is available from the Birmingham Health Education Service. Community nurses also contribute to the overall delivery of SRE and in some sectors other medical staff work with pupils.
- Parents will be informed about the timing of SRE lessons and may choose to withdraw their children by writing to the appropriate Head of Sector /Assistant Head Teachers. This will be recorded and alternative provision will be made within existing resources where possible
- We also use theatre companies such as Loudmouth Theatre and organisations such as Brook to assist staff in delivering SRE topics

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The school is committed to working to equality of opportunity in all aspects of provision. In this context, particular emphasis will be given to the need to provide adequately for individuals.

MONITORING & EVALUATION

SRE will be co-ordinated, monitored and evaluated through the Performance Management systems of the school including lesson observations.

The Science Co-ordinator, Primary Co-ordinator and PSHE & Citizenship Co-ordinator will manage the overall delivery of SRE. Pupils have an important part to play in the evaluation process regarding the content and style of delivery of SRE.

This policy should be read and used in conjunction with the overall policies for PSHE and Citizenship, Science, Confidentiality and Equal Opportunities and Internet Policies

SEE ALSO INTERNET POLICIES