



SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

Background/Context

Sex education is mandatory for all students of secondary age and schools are required to provide a SRE programme which helps and supports young people through their physical, emotional and moral development so that they learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.

Principles

At PHS we are committed to providing SRE which recognises that it is a lifelong endeavour to learn about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships and sexual health. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

Sex and relationship education is for all children and young people in school. When developing our policy we consider the needs of all students. To achieve this we endeavour to address some of the issues below:

- Relationships
- Special educational needs and specific learning needs
- Sexual identity and sexual orientation
- Child sexual exploitation
- Online relationships and online safety
- FGM

Aims

1. Attitudes and Values:

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
- learning the value of family life and healthy, stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
- learning the value of respect, love and care;
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas and making good choices;
- developing critical thinking as a part of decision making
- learning to value and respect your body

2. 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 and taking responsibility for those choices;
- managing conflict;
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse
- learning how to stay safe online

3. Knowledge and understanding:

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;

- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships;
- learning about contraceptive methods 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;
- learning strategies for avoiding unplanned pregnancy.

Curriculum/Timetable:

We hope to achieve these aims through the sensitive delivery of our Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum throughout years 7-11.

Students in Years 7 – 9 will receive timetabled lessons delivered once, every two weeks.

Students in Years 10 & 11 receive PSHE delivery through form time provision.

A variety of theme days delivered through the year to all students to education on specific issues.

Roles and responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of all staff:

- to create a forum for discussion and learning based on mutual respect, genuine openness and honesty;
- to affirm the importance of positive responsible choices which express beliefs and respect for self and others;
- to be fully aware of the need for sensitivity and also their own responsibilities when dealing with confidential issues;
- to encourage appropriate contributions from community agencies to taught programmes and pastoral care provision.

Monitoring and evaluation:

The monitoring and evaluation of the progress and success of SRE at PHS is achieved through the departmental self-evaluation processes.

Working with parents and carers:

We will always seek to work in partnership with parents/carers. This is essential to effective sex and relationship education.

Parents/carers are the key people in:

- teaching their children about sex and relationships;
- maintaining the culture and ethos of the family;
- helping their children cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up; and
- preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities that sexual maturity brings;
- working with school to follow guidance and advice relating to sex and relationship

Parents and carers who withdraw their children:

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education provision at school except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum. We will make alternative arrangements in such cases. The DfE will offer schools a standard pack of information for parents/carers who withdraw their children from sex and relationship education.