



SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Policy adopted by the Governing Body of The Wordsley School

Date adopted by the Governing Body

12th October 2022 - CS1 meeting

Signed by the Chair of Governors

I Grosvenor

Policy Formation and Consultation Process

This policy was formulated from the recommendations in; “Sex and Relationship Education Guidance” from:

- DFE [Department for Education](#)
- Education Act 2002 [Education Act 2002](#)
- Mental Health Act 2005, <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/9/contents>
- Equality Act 2010, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance>
- 2013 Sexual Health Improvement Framework
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-framework-for-sexual-health-improvement-in-england>
- Brook organisation <https://www.brook.org.uk/>
- PSHE Association. <https://www.pshe-association.org.uk/>

The people responsible for this policy are Kathleen Lewis (Assistant Curriculum Achievement Leader (CAL) – Humanities) and Katie Weatherhogg (Assistant Headteacher).

Aims of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) in The Wordsley School

At Key Stages 3 and 4 SRE should prepare young people for an adult life in which they can:

- Develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgement and behaviour.
- Be aware of their sexuality and understand human sexuality (including LGBTQ and relationships);
- Understand the arguments for delaying sexual behaviour;
- Understand the reasons for using protection when having sex;
- Understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within sexual and pastoral relationships;
- Have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others and respect for individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationship they want;
- Communicate effectively within sexual relationships;
- Have sufficient information to protect themselves and, where they have one, their partner from unintended/unwanted conceptions, and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV;
- Avoid being exploited or exploiting others;
- Avoid being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex;
- Access confidential sexual health advice, support and if necessary treatment;
- Know how the law applies to sexual relationships and marriage.

Many topics including fertilisation and hormones are also covered in KS3 and 4 National Curriculum Science, as well as looking at attitudes and values contained within the R.E. schemes of work.

Values Framework

Relationships and Sex Education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage for

family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care for each other. Young people, whatever their sexuality need to feel that sex and relationship education is relevant to them and sensitive to their needs. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity – this would be inappropriate teaching.

SRE is taught within the values framework of the school and teachers own values will not influence the teaching of SRE to maintain equal opportunities and anti discriminatory practice within the classroom.

The emphasis throughout the programme is based upon three interlinked strands.

- Attitudes and Values
- Personal and Social skills
- Knowledge and Understanding

The prime responsibility for bringing up children rests with parents and carers. The Wordsley School recognises that parents and carers are key figures in helping their children to cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up and preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities which sexual maturity brings. The Wordsley School's Sex and Relationship Education Programme complements and supports the role of parents and carers.

Sex and Relationship Education Programme

It is the aim of the Personal, Social, Health & Economics (PSHE) department to teach SRE within the PSHE programme spanning from Year 7 to Year 11. Delivery is by a specialist team of teachers supported by Kathleen Lewis (Assistant CAL – Humanities), the School Health Advisor and staff from other relevant organisations.

KS3 teaching emphasis is on puberty relationships, human sexuality, delaying early sex, contraception and sexually transmitted infections, cyber bullying and exploitation.

KS4 builds upon the knowledge and skills imparted in KS3. All content will be age appropriate.

Ground rules for pupils in SRE lessons are whole-school.

1. There are no silly questions – pupils will not be laughed at.
2. Everyone's opinion will be respected.
3. Personal questions must not be asked.
4. Expect that people will gossip – do not share personal information you would prefer to keep to yourself.

The SRE programme will focus on the need for respect within a relationship and the responsibilities that come with a relationship. This will be supported by the school's wider PSHE/Citizenship Curriculum. Our SRE curriculum will ensure that pupils are informed in such a way that they become good citizens in the wider context of society.

Inclusion

All pupils and young people have the right to SRE at The Wordsley School regardless of disability, race or religion. Every child will be given equal opportunities to learn within a good learning environment. However, parents and carers have the

right to withdraw their child from SRE. Parents wishing to exercise this right are asked to put this request in writing to the Headteacher. This will offer an opportunity to highlight the benefits of receiving this important education. Pupils approaching the age of 16 who have previously been withdrawn from SRE lessons will have the right to 'opt in' as they approach their 16th birthday (The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education as per (England) Regulations 2019).

Links to other Policies

This policy links with our confidentiality and bullying policy. The school has a confidentiality statement which staff and pupils are aware of.

Monitoring and Assessment

Pupils' learning will be monitored and assessed using a variety of techniques. These will include quizzes, teacher observation, student self assessment, peer group assessment and group work feedback.

Philosophy

Definition: the law does not define the content and purpose of Sex and Relationship Education other than declaring that it includes education about HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections.

The Wordsley School supports the view that:

- All pupils are entitled to Sex Education.
- The school has due regard to the pupils' views on the content and the presentation of the Sex and Relationship Education programme.

At The Wordsley School we prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. Sexual relationships are one element of adult life and are addressed as such.

The Wordsley School's approach to Sex Education is based upon three interlinked strands of:

Attitudes and values
Personal and social skills including relationships
and Knowledge and understanding.

It is our belief that these strands represent the core elements for successful personal growth. The acquisition of personal skills supported by relevant knowledge is central to the development of positive relationships and self-image.

This is consistent with statutory requirements under the Education Reform Act 2002 that the curriculum in all maintained schools should promote:

"the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society"

and should prepare them for

“the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life”

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/contents>

The emphasis throughout the programme will be on the promotion of physical health and emotional well being. The purpose of Sex Education is to provide knowledge about loving relationships, the nature of sexuality and the processes of human reproduction. Sex Education is not value-free; facts are presented in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner, set within a clear framework of attitudes, values and an awareness of the law.