

JKHS RELATIONSHIPS & SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Introduction

At John Kyrle High School and Sixth Form Centre we recognise that relationship and sex education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the importance of stable and loving relationships including marriage for family life, and about respect, love and care. Relationship and sex education provides students with factual knowledge and an understanding of the influences on young people, encouraging them to be aware of the options open to them and to take charge of decisions about their own behaviour. It encourages the development of personal and interpersonal skills, the awareness and respect of self and others and encourages reflection and responsibility.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the sex education part of the PSHE programme and alternative arrangements will be made for their child's supervision. The request to withdraw must be made in writing to the headteacher. However, parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction necessary under national curriculum science. Furthermore, parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from the relationship aspect of the programme.

Objectives and targets

The aim of having a relationship and sex education policy is to clarify the provision of relationship and sex education to all students and the teaching of human growth and reproduction as set out in the national curriculum.

Our target is that students will achieve a clear understanding of the arguments for delaying sexual activity and resisting pressure. We aim to link relationship and sex education with issues of peer pressure and other risk-taking behaviour, such as drugs, smoking and alcohol, and to ensure that our students understand how the law applies to sexual relationships.

Action plan

Students acquire knowledge about the processes of reproduction and human growth as part of the national curriculum in science. Within our Happy, Healthy, Successful programme, Relationship and Sex education deals with the nature of the sexuality and relationships. It encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes that allow students to manage their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner and provides them with parenting skills for later on in life. The programme is carefully structured and shows continuity between the years. The programme is delivered within a moral framework. As well as knowledge and information, students are encouraged to consider the importance of the following values, which are derived from the school's value system and focus on the well-being of all students.

We aim to develop attitudes and values through:

- promoting respect, value, love and care of themselves and others, including respect for individual and cultural differences
- with reference to the Equality Act 2010, developing the understanding and promoting sensitivity towards the needs and views of others, including those who are LGBT and modelling appropriate behaviours
- discussing moral issues including concepts associated with right and wrong; encouraging responsibility for their own actions and promoting positive self-images
- exploring responsibility to the school, their family and the wider community.



We aim to develop personal and social skills through:

- learning how to share and co-operate with others
- experiencing being part of a community within the class, the school and the wider community, enjoying the benefits, and learning to accept the responsibilities this brings
- enabling students to express preferences, communicate needs, make decisions, choose options that other people act upon and respect
- supporting students in learning to understand appropriate and inappropriate behaviours and manage their own behaviours and emotions
- enabling students to make choices and deal with the consequences these may bring
- enabling students to make choices based on an understanding/acceptance of differences and absence of prejudice
- developing self-respect and empathy for others
- developing self-awareness and self-esteem
- developing skills to manage potential conflict and upset
- learning how to assert oneself appropriately and so avoid abusive exploitation..

We aim to develop knowledge and understanding through:

- developing body awareness and physical control
- developing an understanding of students' ability to influence the environment
- developing a knowledge of gender, growth and development
- learning when privacy is appropriate and how to protect one's own privacy
- promoting a positive attitude towards body changes around puberty and developing the skills needed to cope with them
- developing an understanding of physical feelings, including physiological responses to touch
- developing an understanding of own and others' sexuality, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- learning about healthy lifestyles.

As part of our sex education programme, issues of contraception; sexually transmitted disease; sexuality; unwanted pregnancies and abortion will be addressed. Facts are presented in an objective and balanced way, with students being encouraged to consider their attitudes and values. They will be made aware of the differences between fact, opinion and cultural and religious beliefs e.g. female genital mutilation (FGM), child sexual exploitation (CSE) and peer-on-peer abuse.

Our methods of teaching include presentations and small group discussion, visiting speakers e.g. Chelsea's Choice, the use of worksheets, videos and text books.

Our staff are aware that effective relationship and sex education may lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue and will rely on the school's child protection policy to handle any such matter as confidentially as possible.



Monitoring and evaluation

Student and parent surveys are used to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme from the students' and parents' points of view.

Reviewing

The trustees will review this policy regularly and assess its implementation and effectiveness via learning walks.

Reviewed: July 2020

SLG member: Mark Croad

Trustee: Kate Nicholls

