



High Point Academy

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

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Introduction

Sex and relationship education at High Point Academy adheres to the DFE sex and relationship guidance. The Head teacher and all teaching members of staff have copies of this document whilst governors collectively have access to their own.

The Sex Education Policy is firmly rooted in the framework for PSHE and supported through Science and other subjects where appropriate. In a constantly changing world all children need the knowledge, skills and understanding which will equip them for the opportunities, experiences and responsibility of puberty and adult life. The areas covered in our curriculum will be matched to the age and stage of understanding of the students.

What Is Sex Education and Relationship Education?

Sex and Relationship Education at High Point Academy is about the lifelong learning, to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. It helps our students learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. It is about the significance of marriage and stable relationships as key building blocks of community and society, respect, love and care.

There are three main strands for SRE which are taught across the school as appropriate to the age and development of the child.

- Attitudes and values
- Personal and Social Skills
- Knowledge and understanding

Good teaching practices of SRE at High Point Academy are to develop the appropriate skills to:

- Understand difference and respect themselves and others, preventing and removing prejudice
- Enhance the quality of life and to promote the physical, social and moral well being of the child
- provide a secure and informative environment in which sexual issues can be discussed
- explore critical thinking as part of decision making
- establish an understanding of healthy patterns of sexual behaviour
- promote understanding of body parts and functions of both sexes
- learn and understand the reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits to be gained from such a delay
- prevent unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections

Implementation of the Policy

SRE at High Point Academy will be developed as part of the planned PSHE and Science curriculum. The subject is taught in a sensitive and confident manner where pupils are

made to feel comfortable and secure about themselves. It is taught in an environment where the enhancement of self esteem is pursued where pupils learn and begin to value and respect themselves and others as individuals.

Various teaching strategies are employed across all key stages according to the objectives and maturity of the pupils.

These being through:

- The context of family life and development of the self
- Discussion within small groups or class situations
- Looking at, exploring and experiencing physical objects
- Listening to and asking questions of visiting speakers from within the medical profession
- Demonstration
- Visits, video and role play
- In Science lessons

Ground rules are developed during SRE lessons based on respect. Along with the general class rules the following considerations are specific to SRE ground rules:

- No teacher or pupil will have to answer a personal question
- No one will be forced to take part in a discussion
- Only the correct names for body parts will be used and explained factually
- Meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way

Parents Involvement

High Point Academy seeks to work in partnership with parents because they have a vital role in preparing their children for adult life. Parents will be kept informed when pupils are following a SRE programme and will be invited to put forward their views, either in writing or verbally, and to join a working group. The school's SRE programme will complement and support the parents' role and parents can be actively involved in this. Parents will be invited in to look at how resources and look at how they can support their learning and understanding.

Pupils can be withdrawn by their parents from the part of sex education that is outside the compulsory elements of sex education within the science curriculum.

Parents who wish to exercise this right are invited to see the Head Teacher who will explore the concerns of the parents and possibility of adjusting the approach to the programme.

Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed.

Provision is made for pupils whose parents wish their child to be removed from SRE lessons to work in another classroom while their class' SRE is being delivered.

Monitoring and Evaluation

SRE, like any other aspect of teaching and learning, is monitored with the school's existing framework. Pupils' knowledge and understanding is assessed at the end of relevant units in science and PSHE.

SRE is reviewed annually in the summer term by the co-coordinators of PSHE and science. Governors will seek parents' views at parents' evenings during the year.

Equal Opportunities

The designated members of staff as well as any outside agencies need to be familiar with the pupils' individual, academic, emotional and maturity levels.

Child Protection

The school has a Child Protection Policy to which the SRE policy is linked.

Pupils' confidentiality is respected in all SRE lessons and pupils are made aware of the fact that what they say in SRE lessons will not be repeated to anyone else unless a member of staff suspects that the child or anyone else is at risk from harm.

Attitudes and Values

- Learning the importance of values, individual conscience and moral considerations
- Learning the value of family life, marriage, stable relationships for the nurture of children
- Learning the value of love, respect and care
- Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas
- Developing 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
- Learning to make choices based on understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- Managing conflict

Knowledge and Understanding

- Learning and understanding physical development
- 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 a delay

Aims

- Develop self respect and respect for others
- Take responsibility for their actions and any consequences which may ensue
- Understand the part they play in their families, friendship groups, school and the wider community
- Make informed choices and understand that all choices have consequences
- Begin to know the meaning of moral dilemmas
- Understand that everyone is different and of equal value

- Develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships
- Be able to name parts of the body and describe how the body works
- Have the ability to protect themselves and ask for help and support
- Develop a healthy lifestyle
- Be prepared for puberty