



Iffley Academy

Sex and Relationships Education

Written

September 2016

Date of review

We are currently consulting with key stakeholders to review this policy in the Academic year 2016 - 2017

SLT Lead

Yvette Fay

Signed: Head Teacher

Chair of Trustees



Sex and Relationships Education

The Iffley Academy is committed to providing high quality Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) and guidance as an integral part of the Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum for all students in Year 6 -13. It will seek to ensure that the provision is appropriate to the age, ability, and the special educational need of the individual students and is underpinned by equality of opportunity.

SRE is part of the curriculum for modern life and should provide young people with both the knowledge and skills to manage their lives, stay safe, make the right decisions and thrive as individuals and members of society. The SRE provision and programme of study at The Iffley Academy will aim to provide young people with opportunities to develop skills and qualities such as resilience, communication, empathy and perseverance. We know that these are key skills, which our students require to lead successful safe and healthy lives.

We will provide high quality PSHE and age-appropriate SRE teaching across the school as we recognise that this is essential in keeping our students safe and healthy, inside and outside of school. Young people today face unprecedented pressures posed by modern technology so our quality PSHE and SRE programme will provide them with the information they need to stay safe and build resilience against the risks of exploitation. We know that good PSHE supports young people to make informed choices.

Our staff recognise the importance of good PSHE education and know that healthy, resilient and emotionally confident students will be better placed to engage in their learning, achieve academically and reach their potential.

The Iffley Academy is committed to the belief that young people should have the opportunity to make informed choices and decisions.

We embrace many different cultures, religions and social backgrounds and all needs will be acknowledged and understood in the delivery of this subject. Sex and Relationship Education and guidance is the responsibility of all staff within the school. We aim to help our students enhance their self-esteem and awareness so that they can make appropriate choices and transitions, which maximise their potential and enable them to gain satisfaction from their adult lives.

Sex and Relationship Education is an educational entitlement for all children and young people. It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development and sex, sexuality and sexual health.



Our policy is:

- It is everyone's right to have relevant knowledge of their sexuality regardless of whether or not they have special educational needs.
- To confront the many myths and misconceptions passed on regarding the sexuality (or supposed lack of it) of people with a learning disability.
- Sex education will be co-ordinated by each child's class teacher who will normally be assisted by classroom support staff and/or the specialist staff. Arrangements are flexible so that this area of the curriculum can be delivered sensitively e.g. mixed groups; male staff teaching boys; female staff teaching girls; group dynamics etc.
- We do not feel it is appropriate to artificially divide our sex education syllabus into the primary and secondary stage of the school. Pupils will have access to the curriculum at the level appropriate to their age, maturity and understanding.
- If parents feel they might wish to withdraw their child from this area of teaching they are encouraged to first discuss this with their child's class teacher or the Mrs Y Fay, Assistant Head Teacher.

We must accept that for some pupils with very limited cognitive skills it may only be possible to teach sex education on a behavioural level, discouraging unacceptable sexual behaviour without detailed explanation of why this is being discouraged. However, even in these extreme cases, it is hoped that as a pupil's cognitive awareness develops, it may be possible to introduce him or her to the early stages of the SRE Programme and provide relevant sex education. Apart from explicit teaching of sex education we fully recognise that implicit teaching through the ethos of the school and the behaviour and attitudes of the adults within it will also be very important.

Many of our students may require individual support and teaching in SRE and in these cases this work will be directly linked to their individual targets from their Termly Outcome Plans linked to their Education, Health and Care Plans.

Summary of Programme Content

- Knowing your own body
- Avoiding exploitation – saying no
- Gender concepts and growing up (1): dealing with emotional changes; understanding one's own personal qualities; social interaction with peers
- Gender concepts and growing up (2): understanding the biology of sexual maturation, focusing on the physical and emotional changes associated with puberty as well as the related issues of personal hygiene
- How babies are made
- Contraception and sexual health
- Adulthood and family life: the values of family life and promoting the benefits of family life; recognising the responsibilities of parenthood



Students will receive information about sexually transmitted infections including HIV and AIDS and the importance of practicing safe sex, contraception and its importance in guarding against unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. We will also cover the legal implications of sexual behavior and harmful sexual behaviours.

Aims and objectives

- To understand and manage changing relationships and recognise where and who to go to for advice and support
- Encourage self awareness and awareness of others' personal social and sexual preference in relationships
- Understand and recognise both physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence
- To raise confidence, self esteem and empower young people to develop informed positive choices, develop good interpersonal skills and skills of assertiveness in order to resist peer pressure and stereotyping
- Be able to recognise the risk of personal safety in sexual behaviour and how to make safe decisions
- To build up knowledge and skills to understand reasons for delaying sexual activity.
- To understand the various forms of contraception available and where it can be accessed
- Information on local and national contraception and sexual health services
- To avoid unplanned pregnancy
- Recognise the value of family life, the need for commitment, trust and love in a meaningful relationship or marriage.

Delivery and Implementation

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the Assistant Head Teacher along with all teaching staff, together with outside agencies and partners.

The Sex and Relationship Curriculum will be delivered in a variety of ways, including sessions delivered by specialist professionals; lessons delivered by the class team, 1:1 sessions with pastoral support staff, small group discussions, off site visits and the use of on-line resources and interactive resources. A variety of teaching methods and materials will be used. All class teachers will be involved in providing guidance for their pupils on SRE and will ensure that the delivery and content of the programme is suitable and appropriate for their SEN. All staff at the academy have a responsibility to make appropriate contributions to the wider PSHE curriculum through their roles as tutors, subject specialists and specialist support staff to fulfil the aims of the whole school policy.

The programme is designed to support and compliment the role of parents who have the prime responsibility in this sensitive area. Parents have the right to withdraw their



child from all or part of the Sex and Relationship programme that is not included in the programme of study for the Science national curriculum. This should only happen after careful consideration and discussions with Mrs Y Fay, Assistant Head Teacher and should be confirmed in writing by parents.

Equal opportunities

Sex and Relationship Education will be delivered to both genders normally in mixed classes. There are however certain subjects that might be delivered in single sex groups e.g. menstruation and personal hygiene.

Evaluation

The effectiveness of Sex and Relationship guidance will be evaluated on a regular basis. The feedback we receive from students and parents/ carers is a key consideration in planning for the future.

Links

When writing this policy the following advice and guidance has been considered:

- Sex and Relationship Education Guidance: DfEE 0116/2000
- www.pshe-association.org.uk
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years