



pathfield
SCHOOL

Inspiring interaction

SEX EDUCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

Adopted by Governors	Rosemary Mitchell
Date	28.06.18
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Policy/Procedure checked by/date	Rosemary Mitchell Rose Perkins Pauline Bithell Sharon Ernest Laura Matthews Spring 2018

Pathfield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

This policy will support, promote and be applied with due regard to the requirements of the **SENTIENT TRUST**
inspire • empower • enable

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

We believe that sex education and related issues are **best considered as part of the ongoing PHSE** work within the school and are to be dealt with sensitively in a context that takes careful account of the pupil's age and level of maturity.

All pupils with severe learning difficulties have both a need and a **right to learn about their sexuality and about relationships** as part of their education for adult life in the community and as part of their right of access to a 'normal' pattern of living.

This is in line with current DfE guidance, stating that **Sex and Relationships Education is:** *“Lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and unstable; and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.”*

RATIONALE

The policy of our school is to provide *sex and relationships education* for all our pupils at a level appropriate to their understanding and with the **awareness and co-operation of their parents or carers**. We aim to cover areas which are relevant to our pupils, according to pupils' individual needs, structured to develop pupil knowledge, attitudes and skills in relation to body awareness and keeping safe.

We believe that this information is essential to our pupils if they are **going to be able** to make **choices** for themselves and **avoid** potentially dangerous situations.

Sex and relationships education is **one strand of our PSHE** curriculum, in which the emphasis is on teaching our pupils to **develop positive relationships**, a **sense of responsibility** and an **awareness of their bodies**.

It is based on **national and local guidance** and with the **Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy**.

The content of teaching includes work on:

- **social behaviours and skills,**
- **self care,**
- **friendships and family relationships,**
- **emotions and feelings,**
- **puberty,**

and if appropriate, **sexual relationships and sexual choices, safe sex, contraception and sexually transmitted infections.**

We endeavour to **work in partnership with pupils' parents/carers and offer support and advice where necessary.**

AIMS

The aims are to:

- **establish clear boundaries** within which our pupils may develop confidence and an awareness of **appropriate behaviour.**

- create a **culture** of "openness".
- encourage pupils to **discuss their personal feelings and anxieties**.
- help pupils develop an **awareness of others** and **empathy** for the feelings of others.
- encourage pupils to form their **own opinions and make judgements**.
- promote **cultural, spiritual and moral** development of our pupils.
- ensure all pupils are given the **right** to dignity, privacy and respect as **individuals**.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION FOR PRIMARY AGED PUPILS

Specific Sex and Relationships Education is taught in **discrete PHSE sessions** and also within **cross curricular sessions** in Foundation and Key Stages 1 and 2 alongside other subject areas of the curriculum.

Modules:

1. a. My body – recognising and naming body parts, privacy, private body parts
b. Body changes – growth
2. Family life
3. Friendships and relationships
4. Appropriate/inappropriate behaviour
5. Feelings and emotions
6. Keeping Safe
7. Making choices

Pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2 will also have daily “circle time sessions” to support these areas of development.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION FOR SECONDARY AGED PUPILS

For some of our senior pupils it will be necessary for them to **continue to work** on objectives set in the programme for **primary pupils**. These will be addressed in a **more age appropriate** manner.

We will continue to **work in partnership** with parents/carers in what is inevitably a sensitive and, for our pupils, sometimes a controversial issue.

Parents/carers will be informed before specific sex and relationships education is undertaken at the school and will be given the **opportunity to discuss** the content of the sessions.

Parents have the **right to withdraw** their child from all or part of the programme.

For senior pupils we use a range of resources – the main one particularly for Key Stage 3 is the programme written by **NHS Leeds Learning Disability Team Puberty and Sexuality Pack**

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/docs/Puberty-and-Sexuality-Pack-Session1-4.pdf>

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION FOR POST 16 PUPILS

These students have a more specific type of Sex Relationship Education that suits students of this age.

It includes a scheme of work which focuses on 'Safer Relationships'. It covers change, relationships, public and private and has a strong focus on the internet, and how to conduct safe relationships online.

In Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 the pupils are given **regular opportunities to discuss issues** and concerns over relationships.

WORKING WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

We do our **utmost to work with parents** to support students with their learning about sex and relationships

Parents/carers can **discuss concerns** over sexual difficulties/behaviour which their child may be experiencing or exhibiting with an appropriate member of staff.

Any issues relating to Child Protection will be handled in accordance with the schools' **Child Protection Policy**.

MONITORING

The **Head teacher** will ensure that:

1. Sex and relationship education delivered in the school meets **all statutory requirements**
2. Parents are given **appropriate notice** so that they may have the opportunity to withdraw their children from specific sex and relationship education
3. **A record is kept** of those children who are withdrawn from all or part of sex and relationship education by their parents
4. **Staff** taking part in the delivery of sex and relationship education are fully aware of their responsibilities with respect to disclosure and the Child Protection Policy
5. **Suitable support** is given to pupils and their families in cases of precocious puberty, and inappropriate sexual behaviour.

The **Governors** will ensure that:

1. They shall make, and keep up to date, a separate **written statement of their policy** with regard to the provision of sex education,
2. They shall **make copies of the statement available** for inspection (at all reasonable times) by parents of registered pupils at the school and provide a copy of the statement free of charge to any such parent who asks for one,
3. **Regular reports** are received by the Curriculum Committee on PHSE which includes sex and relationship education across the school,
4. **Support parents by addressing issues** if raised on this sensitive subject, but not individual situations,
5. **This policy will be agreed and reviewed** by the whole Governing Body not the Curriculum Committee, biannually.