



Relationships & Sex Education Policy

At South Wirral High School, our vision and aims are:

- a) To encourage successful learning in RSE
- b) To encourage confidence and to inspire individuals in their learning
- c) To promote aspiration and encourage responsibility in RSE as a citizen in our community.
- d) To promote the principles of LORIC
- e) To provide support, information, advice and guidance for young people and their parents
- f) To promote Diversity and encourage the positive mental wellbeing of all.

Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedom.

It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship.
(*United Nations Declaration of Human Rights Article 26/2*)

2) Aims of Sex Education

As per the new Statutory Governmental Guidelines from the Department for Education (September 2020):

Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way. This is why we have made Relationships and Sex Education compulsory in all secondary schools, as well as making Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools.

The aim of this document is to communicate clearly to staff, parents, carers, visitors and students the manner in which sex education will be delivered in this school. Copies will be freely available on our website for download.

3) Roles and responsibilities

Amy Barr – co-ordinator of Life Studies and SMSC (RSE)
Daryl Harrison – Personal Development Lead
Life Studies Staff 2021-22

Staff Training and CPD

- INSET day – Wednesday 1st September 2021

4) Communication and Consultation

In raising partnership with families in the community, we endeavour to:

- Communicate to parents and carers the changes to the new statutory policy
- Have a dedicated email address for parents and carers to communicate their questions (rse@southwirral.wirral.sch.uk)
- The policy is available on the School website and we will welcome feedback and queries in relation to the learning and intent.

5) Monitoring and evaluation

- Half termly SMSC (RSE) meetings
- Quality Assurance and review of policy
- Reflection, staff and pupil voice

6) Right to Withdrawal in Secondary schools:

Parents / carers can withdraw their children from sex education that is part of RSE (i.e. non-statutory) up until the third term **before their 16th birthday**. It also explains how they can do this (for example, by submitting a written request to the Headteacher). **It is the parents' / carers responsibility to familiarise themselves with the policy and act upon it where appropriate.**

7) Content, Intent and Implementation

Relationships and Sex education provides knowledge and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes which allow students to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way.

i) Knowledge and Information

Key Stage 3

Puberty	Life Studies & Science
Personal Safety	Life Studies
Friendship and love	Life Studies & Faith and Philosophy
Family life and Relationships	Life Studies, FP & English
Gender Issues	Life Studies
Conception and Birth	Science
Contraception	Life Studies
Helping Agencies	Life Studies
Sex and the law	Life Studies

Updated by D.Harrison and A.Barr Oct 2020.
STG approved and Governors Approved November 2020
Reviewed STG – November '20
Reviewed AVB – November '21
Approved by Governors December 2021

Life stages
Mental Health and wellbeing
Healthy Lifestyles
LGBTQ+
Diversity

Life Studies
Life Studies
Life Studies, Science and Food
Life Studies
Life Studies and Extra Curricular

ii) **Knowledge and Information**

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 students have a day dedicated to health education. This is delivered by The Brook (Wirral) which is the UK's leading provider of sexual health services and advice for young people under 25. In addition, there is a Scheme of Work in Core Philosophy dedicated to RSE, along with the effects of drugs and alcohol, public sexual harassment and mental health / wellbeing.

iii) **Values and beliefs**

As well as knowledge and information students will be encouraged to consider the importance of respect and the valuing of themselves and other.

They should learn:

- (1) understanding and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others
- (2) responsibility for their own actions
- (3) responsibility to the school, their family and the wider community

iv) **Skills and abilities**

Students will be helped to develop the following skills:

- (1) communication including the making and keeping of relationships
- (2) assertiveness
- (3) decision making
- (4) recognising and using opportunities to develop a healthy life style

8) **Organisation**

- a) **Relationships and Sex Education lessons** are co-ordinated by the Head of Life Studies. Reproductive science is co-ordinated by science.
- b) **Delivery** is essentially through planned aspects in Science, Life Studies and RE. However, other subjects - e.g. English - may address social, moral and ethical issues which arise from apparently unrelated topics within the National Curriculum. Within this category, as long as the discussion takes place within the context of the subject it will not be deemed to be part of the sex education programme and therefore not subject to the parental right of withdrawal.
- c) **Teaching approaches.** A variety of approaches are used to give students relevant information, to enable social, moral, spiritual and cultural issues to be explored through discussion and to acquire appropriate skills. Health professionals, such as the Brook and School Nurse, will be used where appropriate.
- d) **Student groupings.** Students are taught mainly in mixed ability and (how the students identify) gender groups. Where there is a specific or perceived need, arrangements will be made to teach students in appropriate groupings e.g. single sex
- e) **Resources**

- i) Materials - A wide range of teaching resources are available to teachers and for inspection by parents through the Co-ordinators.
- ii) Staff - With regard to relationships and sex education it is important staff feel comfortable and confident with the subject matter. Staff are trained each year before the delivery of the Relationships and Sex Education programme and any staff who feel uncomfortable delivering certain elements of the programme may ask the Head of Life Studies where appropriate.
- iii) Where training has been received, union guidelines state that a member of staff timetabled to teach and deliver Life Studies is required to deliver the topic that the curriculum outlines.

9) **Specific Issues**

The following issues may occur as part of education. Staff, parents and students need to understand the school's procedures.

a) **Confidentiality and advice**

Students will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential, and made to understand that if certain disclosures are made certain actions will ensue.

At the same time students will be offered sensitive and appropriate support. The following procedures will be adhered to by all adults.

- i) Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse the school's child protection procedures will be invoked. (see relevant policy).
- ii) Disclosure of pregnancy or advice on contraception. It is hoped that the following procedure will ensure that students who are in difficulty know that they can talk to an adult in the school and that they will be supported. The Brook provide an in-house service every Thursday, from 12-1 in E2. This is a well attended service and provides students with the opportunity to seek advice and guidance from trained professionals regarding their sexual health. Professional information and guidance will always be sought from a health professional. The school will always encourage students to talk with their parents first.
- iii) Students should be asked whether they can tell their parent(s) and whether they want help in doing so. If this takes place subsequent responsibility then lies with the parent(s). It will need to be checked;
 - (1) if students refuse to tell their parent(s) the adult should refer them to a health professional; in this case it is Jackie (school nurse) or Clair (Brook Health Care)
 - (2) the adult should report the incident to the Headteacher who will consult with the health professional about informing the parent(s).

b) **Family life**

The value of family life is an important aspect, which will be approached largely through a consideration of the qualities and relationships between the group of people, with an emphasis on stability, respect, caring and support.

c) **Complaints procedure**

Any complaints about the sex education curriculum should be made to the Head who will report to Governors.

10) Monitoring and Review

- a) Relationships and Sex education will be monitored by the Associate Assistant Head (DHA), and the Head of Life Studies (AVB)
- b) Staff and pupil voice will be common practice

- c) The full policy will be made available to all parents and carers online when their child enters the school.

11) Dissemination of the policy

A summary of this policy is in the school prospectus. The full policy, appendices and full programmes of study are available on request to parents, the LEA and OFSTED through the Headteacher, Head of Life Studies and Head of Science.

12) Other policies and documentation which have relevance to sex education are:

- a) Equal opportunities
- b) Anti-bullying
- c) Child Protection (Safeguarding)
- d) BROOK Liverpool Policy - www.brook.org.uk
- e) Diversity Policy
- f) APPENDIX: Full scheme of work.
- g) https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf
- h) www.southwirral.wirral.sch.uk