



HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Learning together Achieving together

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP POLICY

Audience	Staff, Governors, Parents
Named person responsible for monitoring	Head of PSHCE/SLT i/c of PSHCE
Agreed by Quality Assurance Committee	28 February 2017
Ratified by Governing Body	21 March 2017

The Sex and Relationship Policy has been developed in accordance with the current requirements of the law. Under the Children's Act (2004) schools maintain a statutory obligation to promote their pupil's wellbeing, and under the Education Act (1996) to prepare children and young people for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life. The Department of Health set out its ambition for all children and young people to receive high quality sex and relationships education in the *Sexual Health Improvement Framework* (2013), while the Department for Education's paper *The Importance of Teaching* (2010) highlighted that 'Children need high quality sex and relationships education so they can make wise and informed choices'.

A comprehensive Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) programme can have a positive impact on pupils' health and wellbeing and their ability to achieve, and can play a crucial part in meeting these obligations.

Sex and Relationship Education at Hampstead School aims to provide a stimulating and supportive learning environment in which pupils can develop their feelings of self-worth and confidence especially in relationship to others. It also aims to provide a safe and healthy environment for all pupils, staff and visitors in accordance with the school ethos.

Hampstead School believes that sex and relationship education is an entitlement for all the students and an integral part of each student's emergence into adulthood. The three main elements of Sex and Relationship Education – attitudes and values, personal and social skills and knowledge and understanding – are delivered through discrete PSHCE lessons and within the science curriculum.

Secondary schools are required to teach SRE at Key Stages 3 and 4 and the SRE aspects in the Science National curriculum which cover : Human reproduction including the male and female reproductive systems, menstrual cycle, fertilisation and birth at Key Stage 3 and Hormones in human reproduction and hormonal and non-hormonal methods of contraception at Key Stage 4.

This will include developing the following skills: valuing themselves as unique individuals, keeping themselves and others healthy and safe, communication, decision making and assertiveness, knowing how and where to gain information and support and participating in society. The SRE policy encompasses the role of Science and PSHCE lessons in relation to delivery of sex and relationship education to all pupils.

The Policy endorses the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 34 (sexual exploitation) Governments must protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation.

1. The context of the policy and its relationship to other policies

This policy works in conjunction with other written policies on behaviour, health and safety, healthy schools, and safeguarding.

This policy applies to all staff and partner agencies working in Hampstead School.

2. Definition of SRE

SRE at Hampstead School will cover the statutory elements in the science national curriculum and also wider aspects of SRE relating to sexual health, safety, equality, sexuality, healthy relationships and the social and emotional aspects of growing up through PSHEE. As a result the school has adopted the SRE definition developed by the national PSHE Association (2014)

“Sex and relationships education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health”

3. Why is sex and relationship education important?

High quality SRE helps create safe school communities in which pupils can grow, learn, and develop positive, healthy behaviour for life. **SRE plays a vital part in meeting schools’ safeguarding obligations.**

4. Purpose of SRE

- To give accurate and up to date information
- To develop skills to talk about feelings and relationships, to make and maintain positive and healthy relationships, to manage emotions and to keep safe on line and off line
- To learn the value of family life, stable and loving relationships, and marriage (including civil partnerships and gay marriage), the values of respect for self and others, love and care,
- To understand about human sexuality and challenge gender stereotypes, sexism and prejudice, and promote equality and diversity
- To prevent teenage pregnancy and STIs
- To keep safe from being exploited or exploiting others or being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex
- To know where to go to get confidential health advice, support and treatment if necessary.

5. Principles of teaching SRE at Hampstead School

- SRE will be delivered within the school's agreed aims, values and moral framework which is sensitive to the needs and beliefs of pupils, parents / carers and other members of the school community.
- The SRE curriculum is inclusive of all students regardless of their sexuality or gender identity. Homophobia, biphobia and transphobia are not tolerated and are challenged and dealt with as part of our commitment to promoting inclusion, gender equality and preventing bullying.
- Teachers set ground rules so that students can learn SRE in a safe learning environment without personal questions being asked and feel confident to discuss SRE without stigma or embarrassment
- SRE is taught by form tutors with support from local health professionals, including the school nurse where relevant
- SRE is mainly taught in mixed groups but where appropriate single sex groups are organised
- For students with particular special educational needs we will take specialist advice to ensure the SRE is relevant and appropriate

