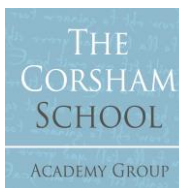


Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) Policy
part of
The Corsham School Teaching & learning Policy



Rationale

Sex & Relationships Education (SRE) is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. SRE at The Corsham School forms an integral part of a programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic well-being Education (PSHE Ed), which is taught to all age groups from Year 7 to Year 11 and continues in the context of CORE lessons in the Sixth Form.

This policy relates to teachers standards:

3. Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge

Principles governing the delivery of sex & relationships education

Aims and Objectives

The **broad aim** of Sex & Relationships Education is to support the personal and social development of students by enabling them to understand their own and others' sexuality and to enjoy relationships based on mutual respect and responsibility.

In pursuit of this aim, the work we undertake with the students may be directed at any of the following **objectives**:

- To acquire knowledge and understanding relating to puberty, sexual relationships, contraception, sexual health, differing family forms and relationship types.
- To encourage positive attitudes towards the human body and sexuality.
- To develop a deeper understanding of consent.
- To understand features that typify healthy and unhealthy relationships.
- To develop students' understanding of risk and safety with regard to intimate and online relationships.
- To counteract myth and misinformation, and to challenge all forms of prejudice, including sexism, transphobia and homophobia.
- To gain knowledge of sexual health services and information available to young people in the local area.

- To develop skills in handling personal relationships, such as communication, and assertiveness.
- To gain an understanding of exploitation, in order to avoid being exploited or exploiting others, including via technology,
- To ensure students understand how the law applies to sexual and personal relationships, including issues of consent and the use of technology.

Ethos

At the Corsham School, independence of thought is nurtured and developed with a recognition that students need to be equipped with the information necessary to manage risk positively. In SRE, students are provided with information and guidance to make decisions about their sexual well-being in a respectful and sensitive class room environment.

Teachers of PSHE Ed will aim to create a positive and secure learning environment where sharing attitudes and values and asking questions is encouraged. SRE in years 7-9 is delivered in the final two terms of an academic year, allowing teachers and students to form a positive working relationship before approaching the sensitive subject content dealt with in SRE. Teachers will emphasise the need for positive and supportive attitudes as well as respect for each other's views and questions.

Legal Background

Government guidance is currently under review (March 2017). It is likely that the curriculum content delivered by the Corsham School will become mandatory in all schools. The Government is keen for SRE to address new concerns raised by technology and new media, as well as to combat prejudice and discrimination.

The Education Act 1996 consolidated all previous legislation, and key points related to SRE are:

The sex education elements of the National Curriculum Science Order are mandatory for all pupils of primary and secondary school age. These cover anatomy, puberty, biological aspects of sexual reproduction and use of hormones to control and promote fertility.

Secondary schools are required to provide an SRE programme which includes (as a minimum) information about sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS. In 2000, this guidance was updated to include: puberty, menstruation, contraception, abortion, safer sex, HIV/AIDS and STIs

Parents may, if they wish, withdraw their children from SRE outside of National Curriculum science. Requests to do this should be made to the Headteacher. While parents are not obliged to explain their reasons, we would of course welcome the opportunity to discuss reasons for removal of a student from lessons.

Teachers giving information and education about contraception to students under the age of 16 are not acting unlawfully and do not require any specific parental consent. It is not appropriate, legally or professionally, for teachers to give specific advice on contraception to individual students. In cases where such advice and guidance is deemed to be necessary, it is our responsibility to encourage students to seek help from their parents and/or from an appropriate health service professional. The school nurse visits the school each week and can be spoken to about such issues.

Responsibilities

The following responsibilities will be reflected in the appropriate job descriptions:

Teamleader for People & Community Studies

- Will develop structured programme with clearly stated learning outcomes for yrs 7-11
- Will co-ordinate the delivery of the programme through People and Community Study lessons.
- Will monitor the delivery of the programme through MER.
- Will liaise with key personnel in the annual review and evaluation of sex and relationships education.

Deputy Head:

- Has overall responsibility for ensuring implementation of the Sex & Relationships Policy.

This Policy has been workload impact assessed, and is operational from November 2003

Date of last review: October 2019

Date of next review: September 2020