



## Sex and Relationship Education Policy

### Key points and summary

1. The Government requires (Education Act 1996 and language and Skills Act 2000) that all maintained secondary schools must provide Sex and Relationships Education including education about HIV and AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases for all registered pupils. As an academy, we continue to teach this vital information to our learners.
2. This policy aims to:
  - Give guidance to parents regarding the subjects covered in school
  - Clarify the philosophy adopted by the school
  - The areas covered in classes and parents' rights and responsibilities
3. The emphasis of this policy is to ensure people are aware of their responsibilities. The policy is part of the Safeguarding and Health & Safety suite of policies.

Previous review date: Autumn 2010

Approved by (SLT): 24<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Approved by Governors 1.2.12

Review date: Autumn 2012

Responsible for review: John Buchanan

File name: o: admin:hhs\_data:policy:curriculum&learners: Sex and relationships 2011.doc

Published on website: yes

### **What is sex and relationship education?**

It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding of the importance of marriage, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. Harrow High School supports this philosophy and SRE is taught as part of the SMSC programme within the school. Our SMSC programme goes beyond National Curriculum Science and seeks to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of learners.

### **Sex and Relationship Elements**

Learners will be taught:

- **Attitudes and Values**
  - Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
  - Learning the value of respect, love and care;
  - Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas;
  - Developing critical thinking as part of decision making
- **Personal and Social Skills**
  - Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
  - Developing self-respect and empathy for others;
  - Learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice;
  - Learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse
- **Knowledge and understanding**
  - Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
  - Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships;
  - Learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services;
  - Learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay;
  - The avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

### **How SRE is provided and by whom**

At Harrow High School, SRE will be delivered in SMSC time by the SMSC teacher or invited visitors and health professionals from outside agencies.

#### **Key Stage 3**

SRE will be delivered with the support of NHS professionals focussing on sex and relationships including contraception.

#### **Key Stage 4**

SRE will be delivered with the support of NHS professionals focussing on sexually transmitted diseases, parenthood and abortion.

There are opportunities within the academic year assemblies to focus on SRE elements including managing emotions and making choices confidently. These may be delivered by staff committed to SRE education as well as external agencies. All invited visitors who are delivering SRE to individual classes will have undergone a CRB checking process, and are asked to provide a detailed lesson plan prior to delivery

### **Withdrawing learners from the SRE programme**

Parents/ carers have the right to withdraw their son or daughter from all or part of any sex and relationships education programme but not the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction that is part of the National Curriculum Science. As our SRE courses emphasise aspects of sex education within a framework of personal development, we hope that parents and carers realise the benefits to be gained by learners from this course and not request withdrawal without discussing it with the school.

### **National Curriculum Science**

Through the National programme of study learners will be taught about:

#### **Key Stage 3**

The human reproductive cycle including the menstrual cycle, adolescence, fertilisation and foetal development; conception, growth, development, behaviour and how health can be affected by diet, drugs and disease.

#### **Key Stage 4**

The way in which hormonal control occurs, including the effects of sex hormones; some medical uses of hormones, including the control and promotion of fertility; the defence mechanisms of the body; how sex is determined in humans.

#### **Further help**

Learners who have a need for further and personal help are made aware of assistance they may ask for outside of school. Information from professionally qualified staff is available at the Caryl Thomas Clinic. Learners can see displays around the school and in the welfare room.

#### **Equal Opportunities**

This policy applies to all learners, without discrimination, under the terms of the School's Equal Opportunities Policy Statement.

**JB November 2011**