

Blackfen School for Girls SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

Date: October 2016

Lead Person: DHT

The Governing Body of Blackfen School for Girls adopted this policy on Sex and Relationships on: [Date]

Statement

Section 1 of the Education Reform Act 1988 placed statutory responsibility upon the school to:

Promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students at the school and of society; and prepare such students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. In addition, Blackfen School for Girls welcomes its duties under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act. ([Sex & Relationship Education Guidance DfE 2000](#)) All state funded schools are required to pay regard to statutory guidance published by the Department for Education in July 2000 entitled 'Sex and Relationships Guidance' – downloadable here. Our supplementary guidance, 'SRE for the 21st century', provides advice on new issues like online pornography, and staying safe online. This advice has been developed with charities Brook and Sex Education Forum, and has been welcomed by the DfE, and a number of prominent organizations.

Rationale:

The purpose of the Sex and Relationship Policy is to ensure appropriate and responsible sex education is an important element in educating students to live their lives to the full in the present and in preparing them for adult life.

Parents and key figures helping their children to cope with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up and preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities that sexual maturity bring and teaching should be complementary and supportive to the role of the parent and carried out in consultation with them.

Outcomes

- To raise awareness of students about their bodies and emotions, and about those of others.
- To understand different personal relationships.
- To enable students to understand the dangers of exploitation and what they can do about it.
- To give students the self-confidence to relate to others.
- To encourage students to be responsible for their own sexuality.
- To learn about reproduction.
- To provide information about contraception.
- To provide information about sexually transmitted diseases and safe sex.
- To help young people to consider the range of variation in sexual expression.
- To teach about HIV and Aids.
- To have access to information about places to which students can go for information and support.

Procedures

Staff who teach sex and relationships education are expected to:

- provide sex education in accordance with this policy and in a way which encourages students to consider morals and the value of family life
- participate in training to provide sex education in line with the school curriculum policy
- implement the agreed scheme of work
- draw to the attention of the head teacher any materials which they consider to be inappropriate
- respond appropriately to those students whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from sex education.

Content

- Sex Education provides knowledge and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes which will allow students to manage their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner.

Knowledge And Information

- The place of parents/guardians as key figures in this area of health education is acknowledged. Co-operation starts before the students arrive with the issue of the 'Guidelines to Growing Up' booklet and letter to prospective parents.

Values and Beliefs

As well as knowledge and information, students will be encouraged to consider the importance of the following values:

- Self-restraint, dignity and valuing of themselves and others
- Understanding and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others
- Personal Responsibility for their actions
- The value of family life and the implications of parenthood.

Delivery is through:

- planned aspects within the Core areas of Science, PPE, Religious Education and Physical Education curricula
- addressing moral and ethical issues which may arise from apparently unrelated topics in all National Curriculum subjects.

Within this category as long as any 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. For specific Issues. See Appendix 1.

Key roles

- Faculty Leader of PPE is responsible for overall planning, implementation and review of the whole programme
- Subject Leaders are responsible for discussing programmes of study with the FL of PPE
- The FL of PPE will provide a report to the Governor's Curriculum Committee on the implementation of the scheme of work once each year and on the teaching and impact of lessons on students.

Related documents:

Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Management Policy, Gender Equality Policy, Special Needs Policy, Professional Development Policy, Inclusions Policy, Race Equality Policy

Next Review: October 2017

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

Confidentiality and Advice

Students who are under 16 MUST 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.

Staff are reminded that as with other discussions of a sensitive nature, information must only be imparted according to the procedures below, and must not become common knowledge.

Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse

The school's child protection procedures will be invoked (see relevant policy).

Disclosure of pregnancy or advice on contraception

It is hoped that the following procedures 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.

Disclosure of pregnancy -

Students must be asked whether they can tell their parents(s) and whether they want help in doing so. If the student agrees to speak to parent(s) subsequent responsibility then lies with the parent(s).

Staff must tell students that they will expect acknowledgement from parents within 48 hours that the discussion has taken place. The member of staff must report the information to the Head teacher/Designated Safeguarding Officer.

If the student refuses to tell their parent(s) the Designated Safeguarding officer will refer them to a health professional. The Designated Safe guarding Officer who will then liaise with the student welfare team and Health professionals, as appropriate about informing the parents.

Advice on contraception/Sexual Health -

Professional information will be available from a health professional e.g. School Nurse or information about Family Planning Clinics.

The school will always encourage students to talk with their parents first.

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.

Sensitive Issues

As part of the sex education programme issues of contraception HIV/AIDS, sexuality and abortion are addressed. Facts are presented in an objective and balanced way, with students being encouraged to consider their attitudes and values within the framework set out. They will be made aware of religious and cultural values and of the difference between fact and opinion.

Complaints procedure

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

Parental Partnership

Under the Education Act 1993 parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme that does not fall within the National Curriculum. In fact, very few parents exercise the right.

Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to contact the Key stage Co-ordinators and they can be reminded of the opportunity to preview the materials before making a final decision although they are under no obligation to do so.

Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in later sex education without parental approval..