

Shoeburyness High School



SEXUAL HEALTH AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

February 2018

Status : Statutory

Next revision due : February 2021

Reviewed and monitor by : Assistant Headteacher - Pastoral

**Signed by: Chair of
Local Governing Body** :

1. RATIONALE & PURPOSE

Shoeburyness High School believes that Sexual Health and Relationships Education is an educational entitlement of all pupils and an integral part of each pupil's emergence into adulthood.

It should 'promote the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of pupils at school and in society' and 'prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life'

(Education Reform Act 1988)

The School's Sexual Health and Relationships Education Policy aims to prepare children and young people for adult life in which they can:

- enjoy their sexuality
- be taught about the nature and importance of marriage for family life and bringing up children
- behave responsibly within their sexual and personal relationships
- understand the reasons for delaying their sexual activity
- have sufficient information to protect themselves and others from infection or unwanted pregnancy
- make informed personal choices and promote self esteem
- value their own body
- challenge discrimination and promote respect and equality for all young people, regardless of their sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

The aim of this policy is to clearly communicate to staff, parents, visitors and pupils the manner in which sexual health and relationships education will be delivered in this school. The Governing body, in consultation with parents, will develop policies, which reflect the parents' wishes and the community they serve.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The sexual health and relationships education programme should provide information which is easy to understand and relevant and appropriate to pupils.

- It should include the development of communication and social skills.
- It should encourage the exploration and clarification of values and attitudes.
- Topics and themes should be revisited taking account of the pupils' development and the concept of the spiral curriculum.
- The school has achieved the National Healthy School Standard (Gold Award) within a nationally accredited local programme.

4. CONSULTATION GROUP

CPDL Social Science

5. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES & DOCUMENTS

- Equal Opportunities
- Anti-Bullying
- Child Protection
- Personal, Social, Health, Economic Education & Citizenship Policy
- Teaching and Learning

6. MONITORING & EVALUATION ARRANGEMENTS

The content of SCOPE and RESHAPE is reviewed annually within the department to ensure all relevant and statutory areas of the policy are included.

The Sexual Health and Relationships Policy will be made available to all parents when their child enters the school, via the school website.

The policy will be reviewed and updated annually.

7. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Sexual Health and Relationships Education is jointly coordinated by the Pastoral Deputy Head, CPDL Social Science and Heads of Science and Religious Education, all of whom are responsible for the overall planning, implementation and review of the programme.

APPENDIX I

PROCEDURES

The School will:

- teach about relationships, love and care and the responsibilities of parenthood as well as sex;
- focus on boys as much as girls;
- build self-esteem;
- teach the taking on of responsibility and the consequences of one's actions in relation to sexual activity and parenthood;
- provide young people with information about different types of contraception, safe sex and how they can access local sources of further advice and treatment;
- use young people as peer educators, e.g. teenage mothers and fathers;
- give young people a clear understanding of the arguments for delaying sexual activity and resisting pressure;
- link sex and relationships education with issues of peer pressure and other risk-taking behaviour, such as drugs, smoking and alcohol;
- ensure young people understand how the law applies to sexual relationships and the distribution of sexual imagery (sexting);
- celebrate diversity and challenge stereotyping; it will acknowledge different types of family unit.

Sexual Health and Relationships Education will build on the physical aspects of reproduction and include meaningful discussion, role-play and group activities about feelings, relationships and values.

- The significance of marriage and a stable relationship to family life and children will form part of any such discussions.
- Activities will be planned to encourage boys as well as girls to discuss issues about relationships and engage in a variety of learning styles.

The skills and abilities that it is hoped to develop include:

- communication including the making and keeping of relationships;
- assertiveness

- decision-making
- recognising and using opportunities to develop a healthy lifestyle
- making informed choices.

Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidentially and made to understand that if certain disclosures are made then certain actions will ensue. At the same time, pupils will be offered sensitive and appropriate support.

The following procedures will be adhered to by all adults:

Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse - the school's child protection policy procedures will be invoked.

Disclosure of pregnancy or advice on contraception or sexual activity – It is hoped that the following procedures will ensure that pupils who are in difficulty know that they can talk to an adult in school and that they will be supported.

Professional information and guidance will always be sought from a health professional.

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

- It is only in the most exceptional circumstances, particularly where younger children are concerned, that the school would not inform parents.
- If pupils refuse to tell their parent(s) the adult should refer them to a health professional.
- The adult should at the same time report the incident to the Headteacher who will consult with the health professional about informing the parent(s).
- Head teachers and governors should monitor the frequency of such cases and address any issues by enhancing the school's sexual health and relationships programme.