

Reepham High School and College Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) policy

Aims

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) aims to give students:

- Self-esteem, including a positive attitude towards their body and sexuality.
- Skills for successful relationships.
- Emotional literacy.
- The ability to make informed choices and minimise risk.
- The ability to keep themselves and other people safe.
- The opportunity to explore their own attitudes, values and beliefs.
- A moral code that will guide their actions.
- A discerning eye for the messages they receive from the media.
- The ability to access help and support.

Effective SRE is embedded in the school curriculum (particularly PSHE) and ethos. The welfare of the children is at the centre of all that is undertaken under the title SRE.

Objectives of SRE

Specific objectives of SRE for students:

- Being prepared for the changes of puberty and having a good knowledge of their own bodies.
- Having an understanding of prejudice and its negative effects.
- Being able to express how they feel.
- Understanding the right they have over their own body.
- Being able to make positive informed choices that reduce risk.

The SRE programme ensures that pupils will revisit topics so they build upon their existing knowledge and skills throughout the school. SRE is taught through active learning activities as often as possible. SRE is supported in religious education and science throughout the years. Topics include abortion, marriage, co-habiting, separation, parent-child relationships, puberty and human biology.

Morals and Values framework

Our school believes that SRE should be delivered within a moral framework that promotes:

- Self-respect and respect for others.
- Tolerance for others' backgrounds, cultures, feelings, views and sexuality.
- Mutual support and co-operation.
- Accepting responsibility for the consequences of our own actions.

- Not imposing our views on other people.
- An intolerance of abuse.
- The right to accurate information about sex and relationship issues.

Content of the SRE programme

A scheme of work detailing the content of SRE is available and a brief overview of SRE in each year is given in the guidance notes. Throughout the programme, pupils practise life skills such as assertiveness, self-awareness and decision making, and consider all aspects of relationships that will affect them. The programme also provides many opportunities for pupils to explore their own and others' attitudes, values and opinions on a variety of issues.

Responsibility for the SRE Programme

- The PSHE coordinator coordinates the SRE programme.
- The school has a link governor.

Dealing with sex-related pastoral incidents.

These can include anything from children making sexist or homophobic comments, to children disclosing information that leads you to believe that s/he is being sexually abused. It is important that a senior member of staff is notified. Cases of homophobia must be dealt with and recorded appropriately.

Informing Parents / Carers

In line with Child Protection procedures, we involve parents unless we feel it detrimental to the child concerned.

Sexism and Homophobia within SRE

Guidance from the DCSF stresses the unacceptability of the emotional stress caused by sexism or homophobic bullying. Challenging homophobia, sexism and any form of prejudice within SRE is part of our school's approach to equal opportunities.

Language

During all SRE lessons, the correct terms for all body parts and functions will be used. The meanings of all words are clarified in a factual way and it is made clear to pupils which words are potentially offensive and that from this point onwards, the correct terms will be used. All inappropriate language will be challenged.

Using visitors to deliver SRE

Visitors will be made aware of the school's SRE policy and monitored

Confidentiality in SRE

Pupils will be made aware that anything they say which might be regarded as a potential child protection issue will be passed on to the appropriate member of staff.

Procedures for pupils who are withdrawn from SRE

Provision is made for pupils whose parents wish their child to be removed from SRE. Parents will be encouraged to review the resources and discuss their issues with the PSHE co-ordinator in such cases.

Child Protection Procedures

The school has an appointed member of staff who is responsible for child protection procedures. If a teacher suspects any child protection issue, they must inform this member of staff and record any evidence that supports their concerns. As part of SRE ground rules teachers need to make it clear to pupils that if they suspect that anyone is at risk from harm, they will need to tell another adult. See Child protection Policy.

The approach to potentially controversial and sensitive issues

All SRE issues are taught without bias.

Dealing with sexually explicit questions

It will be made clear to pupils, by means of ground rules, that personal questions should never be asked by pupils or the teacher.

This policy is supported by Guidance notes for teachers.

REI Policy Revised – November 2013

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