

SEX EDUCATION POLICY

RATIONALE

Schools are required by law to ensure that all students aged 11 – 18 are given the opportunity to receive responsible and relevant sex education as a key element of Personal, Social and Health Education in the school curriculum.

Schools will provide a sensitive and caring environment in which to explore all aspects of sex education at a level appropriate to both the age and development of the student.

Sex education in schools is part of a shared responsibility with parents and is in no way intended to usurp, but to complement the parental role. Students are encouraged to inform their parents of the issues which have been discussed as part of sex education to enable further discussion if parents/students so wish. It should also be taken into consideration that some students have been given no guidance by parents regarding sex education and therefore this is one approach to facing issues which are primarily a family responsibility.

PURPOSES

To develop understanding and attitudes which prepare students to view their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner.

To provide knowledge about relationships, the nature of sexuality and the processes of human reproduction.

To present facts in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner, set within a clear framework of values and an awareness of the law on sexual behaviour.

To encourage students to appreciate the value of stable family life, marriage and the responsibilities of parenthood.

To help students consider the importance of self-restraint, dignity, respect for themselves and others.

To enable students to recognise the physical and emotional implications, and risks of certain types of behaviour and to accept that both sexes must behave responsibly in sexual matters.

GUIDELINES

1. Sex education at South Lincolnshire Academies Trust school's is taught by the Health Education Team as part of the PSHE programme. This is a continual programme and is taught in modules throughout years 7 to 11.
2. The nature of the programme ensures that all students with special educational needs are able to access the information.
3. In all key stages the teaching of sex education is delivered mainly through discussion with the help of resources such as videos, posters, worksheets and booklets. Materials are updated as new resources become available. Outside agencies and

school visits are used where appropriate. The School Nurse has a 'drop in' clinic for students once a week on site and students can also have an appointment with her.

4. Staff both involved and not involved in the teaching of sex education are aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a disclosure of sexual abuse and should inform Mrs Conley (Deputy Executive Headteacher) or the Child Protection Manager at either Bourne Academy or Spalding Academy, of the circumstances. They will follow the Trust's child protection code of practice.
5. At the beginning of Year 7 parents are informed of the basic outline of the sex education programme throughout the school.
6. Parents can, as is their right, withdraw their child from sex education lessons and provision would then be made for the student in a student support room.
7. Parents are also welcome to come into school and discuss the programme of study in more depth. This may be relevant where a religion may not condone the teaching of contraception or if they are concerned about other moral issues.
8. Staff who are responsible for the leading of sex education should also be aware of its teaching across the curriculum in subjects such as Science and RE.
9. The sex education policy is monitored and evaluated by those teaching it, and any change discussed with the appropriate line managers and the Executive Headteacher and any changes brought to the attention of the Governors.

CONCLUSION

The prime aim of the teaching of sex education in schools is to make students aware of their emerging maturity and to enable them to explore issues about adulthood and to give them the opportunity to develop an objective awareness of their own sexuality.