

Sex and Relationships Education at Highcliffe school

Our policy is based on the [Department for Education \(DfE\) guidance on SRE](#).

Aims

At the forefront of our aim, is our vision that we value the power of education to change lives. At Highcliffe School, we believe it is important for students to be prepared to make informed decisions about their lives, including their future relationships.

We believe that young people should learn about sex and relationships in a safe and secure environment where they are provided with accurate information and the opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues in a mature, and age appropriate manner.

Delivery of SRE

At Highcliffe School, we believe that promoting the health and wellbeing of our students is an important part of their overall education.

Throughout the academic year and as part of our broader Ethical and Personal Development curriculum (EPD) we will be exploring a range of topics related to Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) and Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)

Many of the topics will be taught discretely within the context of the rest of the EPD curriculum.

The curriculum will cover an age appropriate focus on sexual reproduction, contraception, relationships, sexualisation and the media (Including sexting, Internet safety and pornography).

In addition, students will have lessons devoted to sexual health and puberty. This may be delivered as an assembly or in EPD lessons where appropriate.

For some of the sessions, students may be taught in gender groups, while other sessions will be in mixed gender classes.

All materials used in the delivery of this curriculum are provided by the NHS and the National PSHE Association, and are deemed age appropriate. Any other agencies used for materials will have been approved by the PSHE Association.

SRE is taught in a way that encourages students to “have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life” ([Education Act 1996](#)).

Some parts of SRE are compulsory, such as elements taught within the Science curriculum.

Responsibilities

The programme of study for EPD lessons and PSHE sessions are the responsibility of the Director of Learning for Ethical and Personal development and the Assistant Director of Learning in charge of PSHE. A member of the Senior Leadership Team has overall responsibility for the monitoring of the SRE programme.

Monitoring and review

As a school we constantly monitor and review the delivery of SRE, by way of observations, the updating of materials and consultation with staff, students and the student council. Parents are updated on the policy on an annual basis and invited to respond if desired. Staff delivering the programme regularly consult with outside agencies and attend training.

The right to withdraw

Parents can withdraw their children from all parts of SRE (apart from the compulsory elements delivered in Science lessons) if they wish to do so. However, we believe that it is important for all young people to have a place to discuss peer pressures, check facts and dispel myths. Even if a child is withdrawn, students will inevitably discuss such issues with each other outside the classroom resulting in, hearing about the content second hand. We hope therefore, all children will have the opportunity to participate in our carefully planned lessons and assemblies to ensure they receive correct information and advice.

Any parent wishing to withdraw their child should contact the school in writing or by phone to discuss their concerns.

Policy compiled by:	Mrs L. Downie and Mrs M. Read
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