

Sex and Relationship Education - Registered Schools

1 Policy

- 1.1 Each Establishment which is a registered school shall have an up to date policy which must:
- define sex and relationship education;
 - describe how sex and relationship education is provided and who is responsible for providing it;
 - say how sex and relationship education is monitored and evaluated;
 - include information about parents/next of kin right of withdrawal and
 - be reviewed regularly.
- 1.2 Heads shall ensure that copies of the policy on sex and relationship education are made available for parents/next of kin, placing authorities and Ofsted inspectorate.
- 1.3 Heads, in adopting and reviewing policies on sex and relationship education for students in their Establishments up to and including Key Stage 4, shall base them on the guidance issued by the then DfES in the publication 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' issued in July 2000, and any subsequent update of the publication, or from the Department for Education.
- 1.4 The written policies shall state clearly the details of what primary age students will be taught, particularly in the transition year before moving to the secondary phase.
- 1.5 The written policies for the secondary phase students must include how Establishments will teach the relevant National Curriculum topics and how they will provide sex and relationship education as part of PSHE.
- 1.6 All Establishments shall provide sex and relationship education in such a manner as to encourage students to have regard to moral considerations and the value of family life.
- 1.7 Heads shall ensure that parents/next of kin are fully informed of the right to withdraw their son/daughter from any or all parts of the Establishment's programme of sex and relationship education except for those parts which are required by statute under the National Curriculum.
- 1.8 The views of students aged 16 or over shall be taken into account by Heads about participation in the Establishment's programme of sex and relationship education. Where students lack the capacity to offer such views the Best Interests process should be followed.
- 1.9 All employees should be aware of Group Policy 'Care and Health Support' and its relevance for this policy on Sex and Relationship Education.

2 Purpose

- 2.1 To comply with the legal requirements as applied to independent schools.
- 2.2 To involve parents/next of kin fully in the provision of sex and relationship education for their children.
- 2.3 To ensure that students at all Establishments are offered the opportunity of receiving a comprehensive, well-planned programme of sex and relationship education.
- 2.4 To ensure that parents/next of kin are aware of their rights in respect of the withdrawal of their child from sex and relationship education lessons.
- 2.5 To prepare students for the opportunities and responsibilities of adult life.

3 Procedures

- 3.1 In implementing and reviewing the sex and relationship education policies in their Establishments for students up to Key Stage 4, Heads will need to ensure that all the appropriate employees are aware that such policies must be based on the DfES publication 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' issued in July 2000, the review of SRE published in 2008 and a fact sheet issued by the dept in 2004, all available from the Department for Education. In addition employees responsible for other groups of students will find the DfE publication relevant and helpful and should use it wherever possible.
- 3.2 Heads shall draw the attention of parents/next of kin to the policy of the Establishment on sex and relationship education when students are being enrolled and make copies available when requested.
- 3.3 Parents/next of kin wishing to exercise their right to withdraw their son/daughter from all or part of the Establishment's programme of sex and relationship education should do so in writing to the Head concerned.
- 3.4 Heads shall ensure that employees are aware that parents/next of kin do not have to give reasons for their decision to withdraw their son/daughter from sex and relationship education programmes.
- 3.5 Heads shall ensure that all appropriate employees are aware that once a request by parents/next of kin that a student be excused from sex and relationship education lessons the request must be complied with until the parent/next of kin changes or revokes it in writing to the Head.
- 3.6 Establishments should use the Admission and Annual Review procedures as an opportunity to consult parents/next of kin formally on the provision by the Establishment of sex and relationship education for their son/daughter.