

# **POLICY DOCUMENTATION**

## **GREAT SCHOOLS ARE CONSISTENT SCHOOLS**



<b>POLICY</b>	<b>Sex and Relationship Education</b>
<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	Vice Principal
<b>LAST REVIEWED</b>	May 2018



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**Sex and Relationship Education**

## PRINCIPLES

The Academy is committed to ensuring that all scholars should be offered the opportunity of receiving a comprehensive, well-planned programme of sex and relationships education. The Academy believes that high quality sex and relationships education is an essential part of schooling which supports young people's development and prepares them for adult life.

## AIMS

- Prepare the scholars for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life so that they may make a positive contribution to society and keep themselves safe.
- To encourage health-promoting behaviour.
- Complement and be supportive to the role of parents/carers and have regard to parents'/carers' views about its content and presentation; and ensure scholars have the information to make informed, healthy and safe life choices.
- Develop scholars understanding of personal responsibility.
- Ensure scholars learn to show respect and consideration for others and alternative points of views.
- Provide support and information for young people and their parents/carers.

## PRACTICE

The Academy has an on-going programme of sex education throughout Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and Post-16. This programme is regularly updated and reviewed. The programme will be delivered through National Curriculum Science lessons, GCSE Religious Education and through the Personal Development Studies curriculum. The topics covered in each key stage are:

### Key Stage 3

#### Year 7

- Knowledge of different types of relationships that are part of adult life.
- Strategies for managing emotional and physical changes during adolescence.
- Relationships in general as an introduction to sex education and recognising the importance of personal choice in managing relationships so that they do not present risks.
- Biological reproduction in humans, development of a baby in the womb, as required by the Science National Curriculum.
- Extract from National Curriculum Key Stage 3 document.

*“About the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence, the human reproductive system, including the menstrual cycle and fertilisation, how the foetus develops in the uterus, including the role of the placenta.”*

#### Year 8

- Understand the concept of stereotyping and identifying its various forms.
- Decision making and the confidence to say no.
- Strategies for dealing with peer pressure.
- Introduction to family planning.

#### Year 9

- Laws about sex and moral attitudes to sexuality and awareness of the range of sexual attitudes and behaviours in present day society.

- HIV, AIDS and sexually transmitted infections.
- Differing sexual images in the media.

### **Key Stage 4**

- Family planning and contraception – the advantages and disadvantages.
- General health care and sexually transmitted infections.
- HIV and AIDS.
- In Science the National Curriculum covers aspects of hormonal control, including aspects of sex hormones and the medical use of hormones.

### **Post –16**

At Post-16, the work done in the earlier key stages is reinforced and expanded upon, preparing scholars for the adult world. It extends the topics touched on earlier into real life situations. The Year 12 scholars will be involved in assemblies and preparing material for use in lower years.

### **Information through other National Curriculum Subjects**

Parents/carers must be aware that through other National Curriculum subjects such as English, RE and History, controversial issues may come up and therefore require a certain amount of discussion. Within this category, as long as any discussion takes place within the context of the subject, it will not be deemed to be part of the sex education programme and therefore not subject to parental right of withdrawal. However, the Academy holds the belief that staff will deal both sensitively and professionally with any issues which arise in the classroom.

### **A number of these issues are mentioned below**

- Birth, contraception, child-rearing, abortion and technological developments which involve consideration of attitudes, beliefs, values and morality.
- Awareness of the availability of statutory and voluntary organisations which offer support in human relationships, such as Relate.
- Awareness that feeling positive about sexuality and sexual activity is important in relationships and understanding the changing nature of sexuality over time and its impact upon lifestyles, such as the menopause.
- Awareness of partnerships, marriage and divorce and the impact of loss, separation and bereavement.
- Discussion of issues such as sexual harassment in terms of their effect on individuals.

### ***The parental right of withdrawal from lessons where these issues are being addressed***

By working closely with parents/carers, our experience has shown that we have convinced them of the value of sex education for their children. We are optimistic that this situation will continue.

Parents/carers now have the right to withdraw their children from their sex education although not from those elements which are in National Curriculum Science. If a parent wishes to withdraw a child from these classes, they are asked to discuss it with the Principal or Vice Principal to be clear about what the scholar will do when withdrawn. It should be made clear, however, that if scholars who are withdrawn from sex education ask questions at other times, these questions will be answered honestly by staff.

### ***Use of outside visitors***

It is anticipated that professionals from outside the Academy will be involved in teaching the sex education programme at certain times. Every visitor or professional speaker involved in this programme will be made aware of the sex education policy of this Academy. The Academy Senior Leadership Team exercises great care in the choice of external speakers.

### **Information**

Parents/carers are informed of the Academy's Sex Education Policy through the Academy Parent / Carer Handbook. The Academy will also inform parents/carers when their child is due to receive sex education and all parents/carers will have the opportunity to raise and discuss concerns about the Academy Sex Education Programme with the relevant member of Mountain Support.

### ***Monitoring and reviewing***

- Sex Education will be monitored by the Vice Principal and the Heads of Year.
- A nominated Governor will have a link role between the school and the Governing Body.

***The Sex and Relationship Education Policy is continually under review and is adjusted as necessary.***