

The Bicester School



Sex Education Policy

Date for review: February 2019

(To be read in conjunction with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy).

RATIONALE

The government requires (Education Act 1996 and language and Skills Act 2000) that all secondary schools must provide SRE (including education about HIV & AIDS and other sexually Transmitted Diseases) for all registered students. The Government review of the curriculum (April 2013) has left this unchanged.

This policy is to ensure the appropriate delivery of Sex Education as part of the PSCHE programme and as a cross curricular theme in other subject areas - in particular Science and Physical Education.

The governors and staff fully support the policy which provides the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of the students and prepares such students for the opportunities and experiences of adult life.

The school's policy on Sex Education is made available to all students and should be reviewed **every 2 -3 years**.

AIMS OF THE POLICY

The Bicester School whole-heartedly supports this philosophy and believes it is best taught across a range of subjects including Science, Religious Studies and PSHE.

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

- To raise awareness of outside influences e.g. the media.
- How SRE is provided and by whom

The topics in the framework are developed gradually through the timetabled RS programme and enhanced by subject teaching and the school's pastoral system and whole year enrichment events (including external support from the Local Authority through the school nurse).

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of any sex and relationships education programme, but not the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction that is part of the National Curriculum Science (see Appendix 1). As the PSHE Courses emphasize aspects of sex education within a framework of pastoral development, we hope that parents will realise the benefits to be gained by students from this type of course and not request withdrawal without discussing it with the school.

RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE POLICY

THE GOVERNING BODY

- The Sex Education Policy has the full support of the school governors
- To ensure the aims and objectives of the SRE programme are met

THE HEADTEACHER

- To ensure the aims and objectives of the SRE programme are met

Specific Issues

Confidentiality - Students are made aware that disclosures made to members of staff, which contravene the law, cannot be treated as confidential.

Likewise where a course of conduct may place a student at moral or physical risk, the teacher has a responsibility to inform the Headteacher/Student Welfare Manager who would take suitable action and arrange for the student to be counselled if appropriate. However, teachers should ensure that students know how, and where to access information and obtain specific individual advice.

Child Abuse

The school has a specific policy and the Child Protection Officer is to be informed immediately and OCC (Oxfordshire County Council) policy followed.

Contraception Advice is not to be given individually or personally, but only to a group with reference to the legal situation and the aspects of sexually transmitted diseases.

Questions

Staff are keen to answer difficult questions within class, but answers will always focus on the classroom learning aspects, be hypothetical and appropriate to the whole class. Questions will not be handled on a personal basis or with individual students.

This policy is written with regards to the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, the Special Needs Education and Disability Act 2001. It also reinforced by many other school policies including Equal Opportunities, Citizenship, PSHE, Child Protection and Confidentiality.

This guidance is currently under review as part of the review of PSHE (September 2012). Related documents DfES guidance note (currently DfES 0116/2000)

APPENDIX 1

An outline of where SRE links into our Science Curriculum in Key Stages 3 and 4:

National Curriculum Science

KS3

- The structure and function of the male and female reproductive system, fertilisation in humans is the fusion of a male and female cell.
- About physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence
About the human reproductive system, including the menstrual cycle and fertilisation
- How the foetus develops in the uterus
- How the growth and reproduction of bacteria and the replication of viruses can affect health.

KS4

- hormonal control, including the effects of sex hormones
- Some medical uses of hormones, including the control and promotion of fertility
- The defence mechanisms of the body
- How sex is determined in humans.

The programme is complemented by the School Health Nurse with age appropriate, form group and small group sessions as deemed appropriate throughout the school.

This includes one session specifically looking at consent with all students every year and information on how to keep themselves safe in a variety of situations. In addition there are drop in sessions available to all students on a Thursday lunchtime throughout the school year.