

## **Kings International College – Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

**Definition:** Sex and Relationship Education (SRE)

A programme of study which provides accurate information, allowing all students (regardless of gender, race, religion or culture) the opportunity to consider and develop their own values and attitudes regarding the love, respect, commitment and significance of relationships, as well as the responsibility and consequences of sexual relations, including the issues of contraception, peer pressure, health and the law.

Much of the Sex and Relationship Education takes place within PSHE lessons. Form tutors work closely with their tutees over a number of years and we believe that they are usually the best people to work with the students on many of the SRE topics as they are aware of each student's individual circumstances. However for Year 8 students there is a dedicated off timetable day where topics are explored in greater depth, this day is supported by pastoral personnel and external professionals / agencies.

### **1. Our Sex & Relationship Education curriculum will be primarily concerned with:**

- the provision of factual information and the development of an understanding of it
- the development of a range of appropriate personal skills
- the clarification of attitudes and values

### **2. Aims:**

The specific aims of sex & relationship education should match the age and maturity of the young people involved but underpinning all of them will be an understanding of biological, emotional, social, legal and moral aspects of sex and sexuality.

#### Attitudes and Values

- to understand the value of family life, relationships, marriage and stable, loving relationships. This includes the nurture of children.
- to understand and describe the value of love, care and respect for others.
- to explore, consider and understand moral dilemmas
- to encourage the establishment of a personal moral code and to promote self-confidence and self-esteem.
- to promote a positive attitude to personal health and that of others.
- to enable young people to understand the nature of feelings and emotional experienced by themselves and others and the importance of healthy personal relationships
- to develop an understanding of and sensitivity to different lifestyles, needs and feelings of others

#### Personal and Social Skills

- to develop self-respect and empathy for others
- to learn to make choices based on understanding the options
- to develop an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- to recognise and avoid being exploited by others or being pressured into an unwanted relationship or relationships
- to explore the legality and consequences of underage sex
- to learn to manage emotion and relationships confidently and sensitively
- to communicate effectively

- to foster a range of personal skills and qualities such as communication, decision making, negotiation, assertiveness and self-esteem which will enhance the young people's ability to lead sexually fulfilling and healthy lives.

#### Knowledge and Understanding

- to learn and understand physical development
- to understand human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- to understand the reasons for and benefits of delaying sexual activity
- to learn about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services.
- to learn about sexually transmitted diseases
- to understand how to avoid an unplanned pregnancy
- to assist young people in making informed decisions about their sexual behaviour and the consequences of behaviour which carries risks
- to enable young people to know and understand the legal framework relating to sexual activity
- Sexual Identity and Sexual Orientation - we aim to deal sensitively and honestly with issues of sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. Young people, whatever their developing sexuality, need to feel that sex and relationship education is relevant to them

### 3. Provision

The Sex & Relationship Education Programme will provide knowledge about loving relationships, the nature of sexuality and the process of human reproduction. It will acknowledge the major moral and ethical issues involved, including abortion, contraception, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and AIDS.

We shall aim to create a climate in which young people are able to explore the emotional and factual aspects of these areas. It is also essential that the religious views of young people and their parents are respected and dealt with sensitively. A balanced view will always be presented and resource material will be carefully monitored by our Science and PE departments.

Where an individual seeks personal advice on, for example, sexuality, contraception, pregnancy or abortion, a teacher's role must be confined to the education context. A student can be encouraged to seek parental advice and be referred to other appropriate agencies for professional counselling and advice on individual issues.

HIV and AIDS will be taught in the context of PDP. The programme will include clarifying information about STDs, HIV and AIDS, including transmission. The programme will aim to develop those personal skills which would enable them to assimilate knowledge, make informed decisions and thus positively affect behaviour. Young people will be given the opportunity to examine their attitudes and values, their responsibility towards self and others and the benefits of loving and caring relationships.

SRE will be provided by the College in accordance with the current legislation and the DfES Sex and Relationship Education Guidance document ref: DfES 0116/2000. The material used will form a planned spiral curriculum, where topics are covered at increasing levels of complexity with increasing age.

#### Confidentiality:

Situations will arise where there is serious cause for concern regarding the safety of students or staff are approached individually for advice regarding a sexual matter.

- students must be reassured that their best interests are of prime consideration
- **but no guarantee of confidentiality can be given by any member of staff**
- staff will ensure that the student knows that the information is to be shared before discussing it with the Deputy Headteacher, Child Protection and provide appropriate support
- it is not appropriate for any member of staff to give advice on sexual matters **to individual students**

- all suspected abuse cases must be reported to Deputy Headteacher, Child Protection immediately, in accordance with the College's Child Protection Policy
- students must be encouraged to talk to their parents or carers and given support to do so
- staff will ensure that the student is informed of the sources of help

During lessons staff will:

- set clear ground rules
- not force students to take part in discussion
- depersonalise discussions
- ensure that no one, staff, student or visitor, will have to answer a personal question
- develop a safe, non-threatening environment in which reflection and the development of decision making skills can take place
- refer back to the ground rules if questions asked, during the lesson, are inappropriate
- raise the issue with the Performance Manager, or Deputy Headteacher, Child Protection if the discussion causes concern.

## THE RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Section 241 of The Education Act 1993 gives parents the right to withdraw their children from any or all parts of the College's programme of Sex & Relationship Education **other than those elements which are required by the National Curriculum Science Order.**

National Curriculum Science
Key Stage 3
1. c) reference to sperm and ova cells
d) that fertilisation in humans ..... is the fusion of a male and female cell
2. f) about the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence
g) about the human reproductive system, including the menstrual cycle and fertilisation
h) how the foetus develops in the uterus
n) how the growth and reproduction of bacteria and the replication of viruses can affect health
Key Stage 4
2. f) the way in which hormonal control occurs, including the effects of the sex hormones
g) some medical uses of hormones, including the control and promotion of fertility
i) the defence mechanisms of the body
3.d) how sex is determined in humans

Physical aspects of puberty and reproduction are delivered as part of the Science National Curriculum and taught by Science teachers. These lessons are focussed on aspects of development and reproduction, although the importance of relationships is not forgotten.

Parents who wish to withdraw their children from part of the PDP programme pertaining to Sex & Relationship Education should make a written request to the Headteacher who will arrange to meet with them so that any misunderstandings about the nature of Sex & Relationship Education provided by the College can be resolved.

Accountable for implementation: All staff

Monitoring and evaluation: Monitored by subject co-ordinators and Senior Leadership Team

### Monitoring and Assessment:

Monitoring of the SRE programme will take the following forms:

- Lesson Observations by line managers of KS3 & 4 Science, RS and the PDP programme

- Evaluation sheets completed by Year 10 and 11 students with regard to the PDP programme by Coordinator PDP
- Reviewing the plan of provision against the requirements of legislation and the Curriculum by Assistant Headteacher Curriculum
- Reports from the co-ordinator to Assistant Headteacher Curriculum
- Feedback from parents.