



Real Independent School

Sex and Relationship Policy

Policy written: April - May 2018

Policy Ratified: 18th June 2018

Review Date: 18th June 2019



Rationale

REAL Independent School recognises the entitlement of all learners to receive Sex and Relationship Education, which is current, meaningful and relevant. REAL Independent School promotes respect for diversity, encourages a sense of compassion and understanding of others, and a deep respect for human worth and dignity.

We recognise and respect every member of the schools culture, religious values and sexual orientation. We also recognise that the advance of modern technology brings with it issues of safeguarding and we are committed to addressing on-line safety in its various forms.

Definition

SRE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

SRE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

SRE is not about the promotion of sexual activity

Statutory Guidance and Legislation

This policy was written in line with national statutory guidance on sex and relationships education and is informed by current Government advice and guidance.

We are aware that parents and carers need to know what their children will be taught at different ages. Our sex and relationships programme forms part of the wider PSHE education provision.

If parents wish to withdraw their child from the non-statutory or science elements of the curriculum they should do so in writing to the child's Learning Manager.

Parents should also be aware that, for learners aged 13 - 19, REAL Independent School offer access to the C-Card Scheme. The C-card scheme is a service where young people can access confidential sexual health advice and have free access to condoms. During the registration learners will have access to information and advice around the proper use of condoms, sexually transmitted infections, unplanned pregnancy and signposting to other services. Staff have been trained and actively promote the delay of sexual activity, particularly when under the age of 16.



Aims

The aims of sex and relationship education (SRE) at our school are to:

- Ensure that learners are able to keep healthy and safe.
- To reduce the risk of learners becoming victims of child sexual exploitation.
- Ensure access for all to quality SRE at a level appropriate to their individual needs.
- Provide a safe and supportive environment in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare learners for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils to develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive attitude and culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Explore the links with alcohol and substance misuse and enabling learners to make informed choices
- Reduce the proportion of learners displaying risk taking behaviours

Delivery of the SRE Curriculum

SRE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of SRE are taught within the science curriculum. Sessions may be taught as a discrete unit or they may be embedded within other subjects such as ICT, English and Religious Education.

Pupils also have regular access, throughout the academic year, to workshops and SRE sessions taught by external organisations promoting positive Sexual Health and Relationships. Previously this has included organisations such as Pintsize Theatre Company and Sexions Service.

Across the Key Stages, pupils will learn about:

- The different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships, dealing with strangers and, intimate relationships;
- how to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships, including self-respect and respect for others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent, and how to manage conflict, and also how to recognise unhealthy relationships;
- how relationships may affect health and wellbeing, including mental health;



- healthy relationships and safety online
- factual knowledge, around sex, sexual health and sexuality, set within the context of relationships.

Where appropriate, pupils at Key Stages 4 and 5 will have the opportunity to explore Sex and Relationships Education through accredited pathways including ASDAN PSD and Aim Awards.

Topics covered include the following:

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work

These skills are taught within the context of family life.

Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body

The Extended Leadership Team and governing board will approve the SRE policy, and hold the Senior Leadership to account for its implementation.

The Headteacher

The Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team are responsible for ensuring that SRE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from [non-statutory/non-science] components of SRE.

Staff are responsible for:

Delivering SRE in a sensitive way
Personalising delivery to the needs of the individual
Modelling positive attitudes to SRE



Monitoring and tracking of progress

Responding to the needs of individual pupils and issues as they arise

Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents or carers wish them to be withdrawn from the [non-statutory/non-science] components of SRE

Staff will be provided with regular access to training and development to ensure that they are confident in their subject knowledge and delivery.

Learners

Learners are expected to participate at their own level of engagement in SRE and, when discussing issues related to SRE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

Alternative work, which focuses on values and self esteem will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from SRE.

Training

Staff training on the delivery of SRE is offered regularly and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The co-ordinator for PSHE will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses and sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching SRE.

Monitoring and Review arrangements

- The delivery of SRE is monitored by The SLT and the designated lead for PSHE through Learning Walks, lesson observations, PSHCE and Wellbeing Tracking and Work Scrutiny Processes.
- This policy will be reviewed by SLT annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by The Extended Leadership Team and Board of Governors.