

BISHOP WORDSWORTH'S SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

A Statutory Policy

Definitions:

1. *'Parent(s)' includes guardian(s) or any person who has parental responsibility for the pupil or who has care of them.*
2. *'Is to', 'are to' and 'must' are obligatory. 'Should' is not obligatory but is good practice and is to be adhered to unless non-compliance can be justified.*

AIM

1. The aim of this Policy is to direct the level and extent of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at Bishop Wordsworth's School (the School).
2. The aim of RSE is to give young people the information they need to help them develop healthy nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships.

PARENTAL APPROVAL

3. Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE, up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education. Under these circumstances, parents should write a letter to the Head, signed by all parents who have care of the pupil.

CONTENT OF RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION CLASSES

4. RSE is to be taught primarily as part of the PSHE programme and aspects are also covered in Biology and RE. Visiting speakers are used, where possible, to supplement and strengthen what we do in school. The main areas to be covered are:
 - a. Mammalian reproduction.
 - b. Human reproduction including male & female reproductive systems, the menstrual cycle, 'periods' & their effects etc; legal, moral, religious/spiritual, and emotional aspects of human sexuality; what happens during sexual intercourse; conception and contraception; Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and other potential hazards and complications.
 - c. Moral, legal, religious/ spiritual, and emotional issues.
 - d. Responsibilities in relationships.
 - e. Sexual stereotyping and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/questioning and others (LGBTQ+) awareness.
 - f. Online safety and risks of social media, including child sexual exploitation and grooming.

SUBJECTS TO BE TAUGHT BY YEAR GROUP

5. **Year 7.** Mammalian reproduction including male and female reproductive anatomy. Courtship and sexual reproduction in other animals (in Biology lessons).
6. **Year 8.** Human sexual anatomy; human reproduction & related matters (as outlined above in sub-paras 3b and 3c above). The law with reference to sexual consent. Contraceptive methods and family planning. STIs and STDs. Attitudes and values to love and sex. The perils of pornography, sexting and safety on-line.
7. **Year 9.** Testicular, penile, prostate & breast cancers; Testicular Self Examination (TSE).
8. **Years 10 & 11.** Focus is on such matters as risk taking behaviour; responsibilities in relationships; attitudes to sex/ sexuality, including sexual stereotyping; parenting issues. Also revisits, in particular, STIs/STDs (signs/ symptoms, where to get help/ treatment, long-term consequences etc). Contraception (including demonstration of contraceptive devices, condom use and fitting) – reiteration of all key points previously covered. Consent and the Sexual Offences Act. In Biology, the mechanisms/hormonal control of the menstrual cycle is detailed along with sexual health and contraception and infertility treatments.
9. **Years 12 & 13.** PSHE in the 6th form may include a general review of all or any sex education matters taught in KS 3 & 4, but is far more ‘pupil led’ and is to tend to focus on areas in which they show interest/concern. Pupils are reminded explicitly of the potential hazards of STIs and of the importance of conducting regular TSE and breast examination.

CHANGES IN LEGISLATION

10. If, during the currency of this Policy, any statute or statutory instrument is enacted that adds to, modifies or is in conflict with any provisions of the Policy, then the Policy will be deemed to include any such statutory provision to the extent necessary to make the Policy compliant with that provision.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

11. Monitoring is undertaken using established effectiveness indicators detailed in the PHSE Scheme of Work

12. This Policy is to be reviewed annually.

13. This Policy was adopted by Governors on 9.10.07 and subsequently reviewed and where appropriate amended on (dates in parentheses indicates no change): (16.10.08). 13.10.09, 05.10.10, 29.09.11, (11.04.13), 13.03.14, (02.07.15), 28.06.16, 20.06.17, 26.06.18, 26.06.19, 30.06.20, 15.06.21.