



Gillingham School

Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Policy Status/Review Programme	Statutory
Reviewed by SLT	
Ratified by Governors	
Effective from	
Review scheduled for	
Responsible person	Lizzy Rhodes / Ebby Perren-Chant
Policy prepared by	Ebby Perren-Chant
Responsible Governor Committee	

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Reviewed by the Governing Body – Date:

1: Aims of SRE

The objective of sex and relationship education is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. A successful programme, firmly embedded in PSHE and delivered in a cross-curricular approach, will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. It aims to help students develop the skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives. It plays an important role, alongside other aspects of the curriculum and school life, in helping students deal with difficult moral and social questions.

According to the Department for Education, SRE policy must ensure that:

Secondary pupils should learn to understand human sexuality, learn the reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits to be gained from such delay, and learn about obtaining appropriate advice on sexual health.

Sex and relationship education should contribute to promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at school and of society and preparing pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Legal Obligations:

Maintained secondary schools in England and Wales have a legal responsibility to provide a 'sex education' programme. They also have a responsibility to keep an up to date written statement of the policy they choose to adopt and this must be available to parents.

SRE at Gillingham School prepares young people for an adult life in which they can:

Develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour

Confidently understand their gender identity and the choices of others

Understand human sexuality in all its forms

Understand the arguments for delaying sexual activity

Be aware of the consequences of unprotected sex

Understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within social and sexual relationships

Have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others

Have respect for individual conscience and the skills to judge when relationships are appropriate or inappropriate

Have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves and their future partner from unintended/unwanted conceptions, and sexually transmitted infections including HIV;

Avoid being exploited or exploiting others

Access confidential sexual health advice, support and if necessary treatment

At Gillingham School we value every child and appreciate the importance of SRE in developing a student's ability to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. SRE should therefore provide the basis for lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of effective communication, stable and loving relationships, diversity, equality and personal safety and boundaries. It is also about the teaching of sexual reproduction, sexuality, and sexual health.

The objective of SRE is to help support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. A successful programme will help young people learn to respect themselves and others as well as being confident with their own identity and the identity choices of others. It aims to help students develop the skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives. It plays an important role, alongside other aspects of the curriculum and school life, in helping students deal with difficult moral and social questions.

Students will learn the significance of self-respect and developing healthy relationships as key building blocks of community and society. LGBT+ relationships are explored within the SRE curriculum alongside developing understanding of a wide range of family circumstances.

The knowledge and understanding of sexual relationships allows students to make informed choices. Sexual law is taught including the legal age of consent,

what constitutes consent as well as outlining what the law considers to be sexual assault. These elements are explained with reference to self-respect and the emotional impact of choices and actions.

SRE contributes to promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students at the school and the wider community, and prepares students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. It also enables them to deal with issues of peer pressure and is linked with education about other risk-taking behaviour such as drug use, smoking and alcohol abuse.

SRE will enable students to understand and identify unacceptable behaviours such as different forms of abuse, sexual exploitation, exploitation via the internet, grooming, forced or arranged marriage or female genital mutilation, and to know how to seek advice and safety. Directed e-Safety talks are delivered in Assembly and reinforced during directed Tutor time as well as by Year Teams.

Gillingham School does not tolerate any bullying or discrimination against protected characteristics as outlined by the Equality Act 2010. Refer to school Behaviour Policy, Inclusion Policy and, for the information of students, to the 'No Put-Down Zone' and 'Gillingham Code'.

2: How Gillingham School provides SRE

All aspects of SRE will be taught across the curriculum and delivered through:

- **Targeted SRE lessons**

These are for students who are doing the full course PSRE option which has less time to cover SRE topics or for those who may have missed earlier sessions.

Four sessions are delivered in Year 10 and four sessions in Year 11.

Before Gillingham offered the Short Course GCSE PSRE option, all students attended targeted directed SRE sessions to ensure the content was accessed by all students.

- **SCIENCE lessons delivering specific topics to cover:**

KS3

Male and female reproductive organs: structure & function
Puberty
Menstrual cycle
Sexual intercourse & fertilisation
Gestation & birth

KS4

Bacterial diseases - gonorrhoea
Viral diseases – HIV/AIDS
Sexual reproduction – only from a genetic point of view/Meiosis

- **PSRE lessons delivering age appropriate content to KS3 and KS4 to include:**

KS3

Equality and Diversity
Identity and Gender Identity
Intimacy and self-respect
Contraception and Conception
Delaying Sexual Activity
STIs and Pregnancy

KS4

Respect and Tolerance
Signposting and services
Challenging prejudice
Committed and Unhealthy Relationships
Sexual Exploitation
Pornography and Media Portrayals of Sex and Sexuality
Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting Skills

- **Tutor programmes deliver age appropriate content to KS3, KS4 and KS5 include:**

KS3 & KS4 - Tutor Programme:

- SEAL - Puberty – emotional and physical changes
- SEAL - Relationships
- Chelsea's Choice presentation – sexual exploitation
- Social Networking – inappropriate use of internet (sexual harassment)
- Drugs & Alcohol talk – Speaker from edasuk.org (Education, drugs, alcohol & substance misuse)

KS5 – Tutor programme:

- Nurse talks – Sexual health/Contraception
 - Safe Date – Speaker on Domestic Abuse Training Education
 - Video – Rape on trial in tutor groups
 - Victim Support – Speaker from the charity who are linked to the police
 - LGBT – Sexual Health Adviser/Educational Specialist speaker –
 - Drugs & Alcohol talk – Speaker from edasuk.org (Education, drugs, alcohol & substance misuse)
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- **Through subject-based aspects of SRE**

Subject teachers follow opportunities for relevant SRE teaching within specific topics.

- **Outside Agencies and Visiting Speakers**

Gillingham School feel it is essential to educate students about SRE beyond the curriculum. We host a wide range of outside speakers and work with local and national agencies to support understanding of wider issues which include, amongst others:

Teenage Cancer Trust

Safer Schools e-Safety

Shadows (drug advisory services)

Chelsea's Choice

Stonewall School Champions

Holocaust Survivor talk

Dorset Sexual Health Nurse for 1:1 high risk cases.

A trained member of staff has the role of e-Safety champion to provide small group and 1:1 e-Safety guidance to vulnerable students

3: Monitoring and evaluation

The effectiveness of the programme will be monitored through surveys of student knowledge and understanding of sex and relationship education issues as well as focus groups and feedback from the staff who deliver sessions.

Students have the opportunity to speak to a member of staff following any Sex and Relationship lesson should they need to and are given the opportunity of asking questions anonymously. Students are also informed of services available to them locally.

Dorset Community Health Service provision is currently provided by Emma Higgins to work in partnership with the school to provide specific and up-to-date knowledge about sexual health and well being and contraception but this is also offered by staff within SRE and PSRE sessions. They may form a link between the school and other relevant professionals and services such as local GPs, family planning clinics, Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) clinics, and do inform students about the health services that are available in the area if a student requests an appointment. They can advise students about the availability of confidential support through services such as drop-in sessions, such as those available at the Blandford Forum Sexual Health Clinic.

4: Withdrawal of students from sex and relationship education

Section 405 of the Education Act 1996 states that parents have the right to withdraw their children from sex education lessons outside of the National Curriculum. Where they wish to do so, they should contact their child's Head of Year and arrangements will be made to supervise the child in private study elsewhere on the site.

5: Confidentiality

Issues of confidentiality are dealt with in the Confidentiality Policy but must be considered alongside the Safeguarding Policy. Child protection procedures must be followed and any concerns reported immediately through MyConcern or by speaking to the DSL or one of the deputies.