



TWO RIVERS
HIGH SCHOOL



RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) POLICY

Two Rivers High School

Rationale

Effective Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is essential if children and young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their lives. Young People can gain information on relationships from a range of different sources such as older siblings, friends and the internet. What is concerning about this is that often this information can be false and means our pupils can develop misconceptions that can be potentially harmful. The PSHE curriculum ensures pupils receive factually correct information that will help them to be happy, healthy and safe young people and adults. It should not be delivered in isolation. It should be firmly rooted in PSHEE Education.

Within National Curriculum Science there is an element of 'sex education' which is statutory. The focus here is on the biological aspects.

All secondary schools are required to have a policy about Relationships and Sex Education.

Aim

To give young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships. It should enable them to know what a healthy relationship looks like and what makes a good friend, a good colleague and a successful marriage or other type of committed relationship. Contraception, developing intimate relationships and resisting pressure to have sex (and not applying pressure), acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in relationships will be covered. This will help pupils understand the positive effects that good relationships have on their mental wellbeing, identify when relationships are not right and understand how such situations can be managed. A large focus of our RSE curriculum is also based on diversity and teaching a tolerance and celebration of people in the wider world.

Objectives

RSE includes the following elements:

1. Knowledge and Understanding

- Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages.
- Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships.
- Learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services. (secondary schools)
- Learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay. (secondary schools)
- Learning how to avoid unplanned pregnancies. (secondary schools)

2. Personal and Social Skills

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively.
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others.
- Learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice.
- Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made.

- Managing conflict and learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

3. Attitudes and Values

- Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations.
- Learning the value of family life, marriage, and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children.
- Learning the value of respect, love and care.
- Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas.
- Developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.

Based on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education

Curriculum Content

Relationship and Sex Education is taught in various subjects including PHSEE (see PSHEE Policy for the High School Curriculum), Science and during tutor times.

Key Stage 3 (MLD)	Diversity, prejudice and discrimination with a focus on bullying and racism, hygiene, healthy relationships and resolving conflicts with friends and family.
Key Stages 4 & 5 (MLD)	ASDAN Sex and Relationships short course Visits and workshops from external agencies and charities ie. Teen Spirit, SARAC.
SLD Groups	Being Healthy, Staying Safe, Getting on with other people. So Safe Programme.

Responding to Sensitive Issues

Should any student disclose to the staff any of the issues listed below the staff will seek guidance from Heather Barnby, DSL, Gail Brindley, Headteacher or the School Nurse.

Teaching about sexuality.

Gender and the needs of boys and girls.

Religious and cultural beliefs.

Homophobic bullying.

Dealing with inappropriate sexual behaviour e.g sexual coercion, sexting.

Pornography.

Forced Marriage.

Right to be excused from sex education (commonly referred to as the right to withdraw)

Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE. Parents do not have to give their reasons for withdrawing their children but will be made aware of the implications of removing children.

Should parents execute the right to excuse their children from extra-curricular activities appropriate alternative options will be made available at the time of these activities.

Needs of Children and Young People

Should the students require any additional assistance with their personal circumstances they are aware of the net of support at Two Rivers High School.

All students are introduced to specialist people who can offer the support if and when necessary.

- Heather Barnby, Designated Safeguarding Lead
- John Sage, Senior Therapist
- School Nurses
- Jo Minihan – Pupil Support

Referral and External Support

Two Rivers High School works closely with outside agencies that can provide support to our students if they require it.

Further information regarding referral processes can be obtained from Heather Barnby DSL, or Gail Brindley, Headteacher.