



Hetton School

Personal
Development

Respect. Learn. Achieve.

Sex and Relationships Education Policy



Aims

The aim of this policy is to clearly communicate to staff, parents, visitors and pupils the manner in which SRE will be delivered in Hetton School. Sex Education is an educational entitlement of all pupils and an integral part of each pupil's emergence into adulthood.

It is our aim to, through SRE, is to support lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity – this would be inappropriate teaching.

It has three main elements:

1. 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; and
 - developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.
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. 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;
 - learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay; and the avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

We are committed to working towards equal opportunities in all aspects of school life, including the delivery of the sex education programme.

We aim:

- To encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour
- To encourage self esteem
- To encourage respect and consideration for others
- To provide support and information for young people and their parents



At KS3 and KS4 SRE is non-statutory. The Education Act 1996 consolidated all previous legislation, and key points related to SRE are:

- The sex education elements of the National Curriculum Science Order are mandatory for all pupils of primary and secondary school age. These cover anatomy, puberty, biological aspects of sexual reproduction and use of hormones to control and promote fertility.
- Secondary schools are required to provide an SRE programme which includes (as a minimum) information about sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS.
- Other elements of personal, social and health education (PSHE), including SRE, are non-statutory.
- All schools must provide, and make available for inspection, an up-to-date policy describing the content and organisation of SRE outside of national curriculum science. This is the school governors' responsibility.

The Learning and Skills Act 2000 requires that:

- young people learn about the nature of marriage and its importance for family life and bringing up children.
- young people are protected from teaching and materials which are inappropriate, having regard to the age and the religious and cultural background of the pupils concerned.
- school governing bodies have regard for the guidance.
- parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of SRE provided outside national curriculum science.

Children and Social Work Act 2017: statutory RSE

On 1 March 2017, the Education Secretary, Justine Greening, [announced](#) her intention to put 'Relationships and Sex Education' – rather than SRE – on a statutory footing. She also announced her intention to create a power to make personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) statutory in future.

Following consultation, the RSE proposals would be put in place for teaching to start in September 2019.

The proposals involve:

- All secondary schools teaching 'Relationships and Sex Education'
- Reformed statutory guidance, following consultation
- Retaining the parental right of withdrawal from sex education
- Flexibility for schools in their approach, including for faith schools to teach within the tenets of their faith



Section 34 of the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#) provides for relationships and sex education to be taught in all schools in England.

In Year 7 pupils cover

- Puberty
- The physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence
- Hygiene and its importance during puberty

In Year 7 pupils are streamed by ability and gender, with input from the SEN department, to allow all pupils to access the information. It also prevents pupils from being embarrassed about asking questions about the opposite sex.

The Sexual Health Team talks to all boys groups about boys' hygiene and checking for testicular cancer.

In Year 8 pupils cover

- Different types of relationships
- Introduction to STIs
- What makes a good partner

In Year 9 pupils cover

- Methods of contraception
- The Hetton Centre Drop In service

The Family Planning Service talks to all tutor groups

In Year 10 pupils cover

- Responsibilities of Parenthood (use of the electronic babies)
- Sexually Transmitted Infections.
- HIV and AIDS

The Sexual Health Team (risk and resilience team) talks to all Tutor groups.

In Year 11 pupils cover

- testing for Chlamydia
- Checking for testicular cancer
- The C-Card – School Nurse operates a drop in after school.

A Chlamydia Screening Nurse comes into school and talks to the whole year group and arranges 1 day of testing in school for those pupils who wish to be tested.

Sensitive Issues

As part of the programme, many sensitive issues are addressed. These include contraception, HIV and AIDS, STI's, abortion and adoption. Facts are presented in an objective and balanced way, with pupils being encouraged to consider their attitudes and values within the framework of the PDC curriculum. Pupils are made aware of the differences between fact, opinion and religious belief.

Any staff feeling uncomfortable with these issues can withdraw from the lessons.