

SEX EDUCATION POLICY

The school aims to ensure that all pupils have access to sex education as an integral part of the school curriculum.

The provision will take into account:

- the age, development and beliefs of the pupils;
- will form part of the structured and integrated syllabus of the Personal and Social Education and Health Education programmes and aspects of it will be taught in the syllabi of other subjects;
- will have consideration for moral issues and the value of family life.

The school intends to teach about HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and aspects of human sexual behaviour as part of the sex education programme, at levels appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils. It will also be prepared to answer questions from younger pupils on these topics.

Parents may request that their children be wholly or partly excused from receiving sex education, **except** where such education forms part of the National Curriculum, by writing to the Headteacher at the school.

ORGANISATION OF SCHOOL SEX EDUCATION

1. Aspects of sex education will be taught as an integral part of the curriculum at Key Stages 3 and 4 and in Years 12 and 13 as detailed in Appendix 1.
2. A variety of approaches and resources will be used and by generating an atmosphere of trust, responsibility and respect, sensitive issues will be discussed and balanced arguments presented.
3. Human reproduction will be taught by teachers in the Science Department and teaching about contraception, sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS) and sexual behaviour will be carried out by RE and Science teachers and/or by members of the pastoral team who are suitably qualified and willing to do so.
4. On occasion health professionals and visitors from the community will be invited to talk to the pupils. These speakers will conform to the sex education policy of the school and arrangements will be made for the presence or intervention of teachers as appropriate.
5. Pupils with special educational needs, whose statement identifies the need for a more structured programme is necessary, will be taught either individually or in small groups by a named member of the SEN staff or named member of an outside agency. The programme should be agreed with the parent of the pupil and overseen by the Head of the SEN Department.
6. When dealing with sensitive issues like contraception, STDs and abortion, teachers will offer balanced and factual information and acknowledge the major moral and ethical issues involved. The teacher will use professional judgement in deciding whether to answer pupil queries in the classroom or more privately.

7. The Heads of Year are mainly responsible for giving advice and guidance in relation to sexual behaviour to individual pupils, if requested. If a pupil approaches the Head of Year or another member of staff he/she should be encouraged to seek advice from parents or the relevant health professional. If the teacher believes that the pupil has in mind a course of action that is likely to put him/her at physical or moral risk or that is illegal, the teacher should urge the pupil to seek advice as above and should also inform the Headteacher. The Headteacher and other members of staff would be careful not to guarantee confidentiality in such circumstances but should make the pupil aware of the implications of his/her actions, and impress on him/her the need for further advice.
8. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from some aspects of sex education. These topics have been identified in Appendix 1 by underlining. The parents may exercise their right by informing the Headteacher in writing of their decision. The Headteacher will pass on the names of the pupils involved to the PSHE co-ordinator who will then inform the teachers involved. The teacher will arrange for the pupil to work in the library for the time the topic is being taught or discussed.

Sometimes, during the teaching of unrelated topics, a discussion on one of the restricted topics might occur. Provided that the discussion is relatively limited and in the context of the other subject, it will not be considered part of the sex education programme.

Appendix 1

KEY STAGE 3

Human reproduction	Science
Physical education (re. puberty)	PSHE, Science, Nurse (menstruation)
Social development	Tutorial time
Relationships - friends - family	PSHE, Welsh, Modern Languages
Childbirth	Science
Child development	Science
<u>Contraception</u>	PSHE, Science, Geography (population)
Menopause/ageing	Science
<u>HIV/AIDS/Sexually transmitted diseases</u>	Tutorial time, Science

KEY STAGE 4

Human reproduction	Science
Relationships - friends - family	RE, Modern Languages / PSHE
Childbirth	Science
Child development	Science
<u>Contraception</u>	PSHE, Science, Geography (re. population)
Gender roles	Tutorial time, Modern Languages
Physiology of sex	Science
<u>Sexual orientation</u>	RE, Science
Menopause/ageing	Science, Welsh (ageing only)
<u>HIV/AIDS/Sexually transmitted diseases</u>	PSHE, Science, RE
<u>Abortion</u>	RE, Science
Sexual Harassment	PSHE

YEARS 12 & 13

Sexual reproduction and its physiology (Biology)
<u>Sexual orientation</u> (PSHE)
<u>Sexually transmitted diseases and contraception</u> (PSHE / MFL)
<u>Sexual Harassment - PSHE</u>