



SEX & RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

May Reid

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Signed – Governor

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Print Name

Date: November 2016

Review: November 2018

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Falconer School is a Hertfordshire Secondary Special School for boys. Pupils come from a wide catchment area. We believe that the sex education programme and policy reflects the wide social, cultural and religious backgrounds of our Pupils.

At Falconer School we believe that our sex and relationship programme is an educational entitlement of all Pupils. We believe that by carefully considering our programme and its delivery we can play an important part in each of our pupils' development into adulthood. We believe that parents and carers play a vital and complementary role in our aims to

- encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour
- encourage self esteem and respect for self and others
- encourage the exploration and clarification of attitudes and values
- enable the development of interpersonal skills
- enable the development of a moral perspective
- provide accurate and appropriate information about how the body works, sexuality, reproduction, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV / AIDS and all aspects of sexual health
- help young people understand the information that is presented and the issues of concern at the time

2. VALUES & BELIEFS

We also re-enforce our code by encouraging all Pupils to show

- respect and the valuing of themselves and the cultures of others
- understanding and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others
- responsibility for their own actions
- responsibility to the school, their families and the wider community

3. SKILLS & ATTITUDES

Pupils will be helped to develop the following skills and attitudes:

- communication including the making and keeping of relationships
- assertiveness
- decision making
- recognising and using opportunities to develop a healthy lifestyle
- strength of character and ability to resist peer pressure
- openness and understanding
- sensitivity towards the opinions and values of others

4. WHAT IS SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION?

It is PSHE about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of: marriage for family life, stable and caring relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

5. ORGANISATION

Sex and relationship education is co-ordinated by the Assistant Headteacher. Science Co-ordinators are involved. Parents/carers may be involved in the planning process.

Tutors are ultimately responsible for the overall planning, implementation and review of the programme.

6. DELIVERY IS THROUGH

- planned and discrete sections of work within science, PSHE and Religious Studies
- addressing moral ethical issues which may arise from apparently unrelated topics in all national curriculum subjects. Within this category as long as any discussions take place within the context of the subject it will not be deemed to be part of the sex and relationship education programme and therefore **not** subject to the right of withdrawal by parents or carers.

7. TEACHING APPROACHES

A variety of approaches are used to give Pupils relevant information; to enable moral issues to be explored through discussion; and to acquire appropriate skills. Outside speakers and theatre companies may be involved in the delivery of specialist areas. Great care will be taken when inviting guest speakers and theatre companies in to the school. Clear guidance will be given as to our expectations of a moral and non-judgmental stance. We also involve the Local Health Authority in the delivery of contraception in Year 8. Details can be seen in the scheme of work.

8. PUPIL GROUPINGS

Pupils are taught in mixed ability groups. When there is a specific need (for example members of faith groups) arrangements will be made to teach Pupils in appropriate groupings.

For certain topics e.g. menstruation, as with all lessons, Pupils with special needs will be carefully considered.

9. RESOURCES

9.1 Materials

A wide range of reading resources are available to teachers and for inspection by parents and carers through the Assistant Headteacher and the PSHE Coordinator.

9.2 Staff

With regard to sex and relationship education it is important that the staff feel comfortable with the subject matter. Any staff who feel that they may have difficulty in tackling an area will be treated in confidence and sensitivity.

9.3 We do involve all staff involved with the tutor system as we do see it as being a vital part of their role in forming relationships with Pupils. We do, however, offer training and INSET before any sex education module can take place.

9.4 All staff are asked to teach within the school's value framework.

10. TIME AVAILABLE

Sex and relationship education forms some part of the curriculum in every year group.

11. SPECIFIC ISSUES

The following issue may occur as part of education. We are keen for staff, Pupils and governors to be aware of the procedure.

11.1 Confidentiality & Advice

Pupils will be aware that some information cannot be held confidential, and helped to understand that if certain disclosures are made certain actions will ensue. At the same time Pupils will be offered sensitive and appropriate support. The following procedures will be adhered to by all adults.

- disclosure of pregnancy or advice on contraception – it is hoped that the following procedure will ensure that Pupils who are in difficulty know that they can talk to an adult in the school and that they will be supported
- professional information and guidance will always be sought from a health professional. The school will always encourage Pupils to talk with their parents/carers first
- Pupils should be asked whether they can tell their parents/carers and whether they want help in doing so. If this takes place subsequent responsibility then lies with the parent/carers. The family will be offered support from the school if required
- if Pupils refuse to tell their parents/carers the adult should refer them to a health professional
- the adult should report the incident to the Headteacher who will consult with the health professional about informing the parents/carers
- every effort will be made to offer advice and support in consideration of the family and pupil
- disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse – the school's child protection procedures will be invoked

12. FAMILY LIFE

12.1 The value of family life is important in the consideration of relationships which will be approached largely through a consideration of the qualities and relationships between the group of people, with an emphasis on stability, respect, caring and support.

12.2 As part of the sex and relationships education programme issues of contraception. HIV / AIDS, sexuality and abortion are addressed and aimed at the appropriate year group. Facts are presented in an objective and balanced way, with Pupils being encouraged to consider their attitudes and values within the framework we have set out. They will be made aware of the difference between fact, opinion and religious belief and given opportunity to discuss these issues.

12.3 Complaints Procedure

Any complaints about the sex education curriculum should be made to the Headteacher who will report to the Governing Body.

12.4 Parental Partnership

Under the Education Act 1993 parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education programme. Parents/carers wishing to exercise that right are asked to contact the appropriate Head of Year. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in later sex and relationship education without parent/carer approval. We will always inform parents prior to a sex and relationship education module taking place.

13. MONITORING & REVIEW

Sex and relationship education will be monitored by the Assistant Headteacher. The full policy will be made available to all parents/carers when their child enters the school.

A nominated governor will have a link roll between the school and the governing body.

14 DISSEMINATION OF THE POLICY

A summary of this policy is in the school prospectus. The full policy, appendices and full programmes of study are available on request to parents/carers, LA and OFSTED through the Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher.

15. OTHER POLICIES WHICH HAVE RELEVANCE TO SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

- Equal Opportunities
- Anti-bullying
- Child Protection
- HIV / AIDS
- Drugs /Alcohol

Parents/carers seeking further information, please contact school on 0208 950 2505

16. CURRICULUM CONTENT

16.1 KEY STAGE 3

Pupils will be taught:

- a) to recognise the physical and emotional changes that take place at puberty and how to manage these changes in a positive way;
- b) how to keep healthy and what influences health including the media;
- c) that good relationships can promote physical and mental health;
- d) in a context of the importance of relationships, about human reproduction, contraception, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and high-risk behaviours including early sexual activity;
- e) about the nature of friendship and how to make and keep friends;
- f) the changing nature of, and pressure on, relationships with friends and family and when and how to seek help;
- g) about the role and importance of marriage in family relationships;
- h) about the role and feelings of parents and carers and the value of family life.

16.2 KEY STAGE 4

Pupils will be taught:

- a) about the health risks of early sexual activity and pregnancy and about safer choices they can make;
- b) in the context of the importance of relationships, how different forms of contraception work, and where to get advice, in order to inform future choices;
- c) to seek professional advice confidently;
- d) to be able to talk about relationships and feelings;
- e) about the nature and relationships of marriage for family life and bringing up children;
- f) about the role and responsibilities of a parent/carer, and the qualities of good parenting and its value to family life;
- g) about the impact of separation, divorce and bereavement on families; to know about the statutory and voluntary organisations that support relationships in crisis.