



Handsworth Wood Girls' School

**Sex and Relationship
Education Policy**

June 2010

Handsworth Wood Girls' School

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) Policy

This policy has been developed in line with the school inclusion and Child Protection policies; and with due regard to national and local health targets:

- Reducing teenage pregnancy
- Delaying early sexual activity
- Reducing sexually transmitted infection
- Access to mental health services
- Looking at young people from an holistic health perspective
- Recognising the gap in provision for (sexually active) under 13 year olds to access a confidential service.

Individual sexual orientation should be treated as sensitively as possible and in line with equality legislation.

What is SRE?

It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding and importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity. This would **not** be appropriate teaching.

Aims and objectives of SRE

- To provide clear guidance for parents, staff and governors.
- For pupils to develop the understanding that SRE is a gradual developmental process that is supported by a partnership between home and school. At Handsworth Wood Girls' School we will provide skills, knowledge and attitudes to maintain a healthy adult life.
- To help young people to respect themselves and others
- To support pupils through their physical, emotional and moral development
- To develop skills and understanding to enable pupils to make healthy, responsible choices about their health and well being.
- To help pupils understand the significance of marriage and stable relationships and its importance for family life. (long term loving relationships)

Care and sensitivity will be shown to pupils' individual home circumstances that may differ from this.

- To help students become confident adults and to consider their own and others' sexual health and well being.
- To recognise that, for some, sexual relationships may not occur.

At Handsworth Wood Girls' School we will continue to:

- Have zero tolerance to bullying and racism in line with school policies.
- Homophobic bullying or name calling will not be tolerated.
- Address sexually explicit and inappropriate behaviour (pupils or staff exhibiting such behaviour will be spoken to and action taken as necessary in line with school policy and the law).
- Promote high standards of personal hygiene (guidance and instruction through PSHE/ or one to one by pastoral/support staff and the school nurse).
- Speak to anyone wearing sexually provocative clothing on school trips/discos etc. Pupils arriving in school in inappropriate clothes will be sent home.
- All pupils will be treated with respect when changing for PE. PE staff will be in the area of the changing rooms to ensure all pupils feel safe and do not face any form of bullying or abuse when changing.
- Educate pupils about the media and the influence they have on young people e.g. advertising.
- Sanction any pupil who records images on a mobile phone/ puts images on the internet.

Moral and Values Framework

At Handsworth Wood Girls' School we believe in "Caring and Educating for Excellence" this encourages the following values:

- respect for self
- respect for others
- responsibility for own actions
- responsibility for family, friends school and the community

SRE Programme

Handsworth Wood Girls' School has had a regular Health "drop in" fully approved by school governors. The drop in provides

- Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) information and advice
- Screening for STI's
- Signposting to other services
- Young persons support group
- Smoking cessation
- Drugs information
- Alcohol misuse information, signposting and advice
- Healthy eating
- Eating disorders information and advice

Some of the above do not relate directly to SRE but can have an impact on it.

The school nurse regularly visits and provides all the services of the "drop in" on demands.

All the services provided are in line to meet the local HOB/PCT targets.

Some students become pregnant whilst at school. There is a comprehensive programme of help/services available when the need arises to assist and support school age parents.

Signposting to services are available across the school site on notice boards and are updated regularly

The PSHE programme includes all aspects of SRE and is regularly reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of pupils.

Teaching of SRE

SRE education is taught primarily through PSHE and Citizenship in Key Stage.

Further SRE teaching will take place in small groups for pupils who may need further explanation of sexual health issues. Outside agencies have and will be used as necessary, for instance when there has been inappropriate sexual behaviour. Outside agencies will also be used if it is felt they add to the programme we offer. Drama productions and outside speakers have been used – e.g. Birmingham Space, Waterfall Theatre.

Aspects of SRE education appear in other areas of the curriculum particularly Science and Child Development

Confidentiality

All pupils at are made aware that 100% confidentiality cannot be assured. School will follow its Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Local Authority guidelines. This is communicated to pupils through assemblies and to their parents at induction, or upon starting school.

Pupils are taught about SRE in an environment where ground rules on privacy and respect are set at the start of sessions.

Use of Outside Agencies

Handsworth Wood Girls' School will follow LA guidelines and will contact the LA/Health Education Service team if in doubt about the suitability of any programmes.

Answering difficult questions

If a pupil asks a difficult question during a whole class session, staff will use the question box approach. Pupils' questions will be answered as appropriate (one to one, within the group or in consultation with parents)

Provision for pubertal pupils

Sanitary protection is available at the admin office. Pupils can approach any female member of staff for assistance.

Dissemination of the Policy

Parents will be supplied with a full copy on request. The policy will be presented to staff and governors.

Parent withdrawal

Parents have the right to remove their child from those elements that do not form part of the National Curriculum. As a school, we would meet with parents who have concerns about content and delivery of SRE.

Working with parents

Parents will be given the opportunity to discuss the policy document, schemes of work, methods of teaching and resources at stages during the school year relevant to their child. In line with school policy, consultation with parents on policy is ongoing. This policy has been written in consultation with parents.

Dissemination

Parents have been made aware of the policy and it is available on request. The policy has been discussed with the Pastoral sub committee group of governors.

Policy signed off by:
(Chair of Governors/ Committee)

Date: June 2010

Review date for school policy: June 2013

Person responsible for policy: Deputy Headteacher Director of Inclusion