

## Parkside Middle School Sex and Relationships Education Policy

**Member of staff responsible:** Mrs Natalie Mancini

**Date of Policy:** June 2008      **Date to be reviewed:** June 2010

### Description of school

The catchment area of the school provides an interesting socio-economic mix including as it does families from: a large council housing estate; modern housing estates, built since the expansion of nearby motorways; as well as older more traditional housing associated with an affluent industrialised market town.

There are approximately 450 pupils on role, organised in four year groups- Yr5, Yr6, Yr7 and Yr8. Classes are mixed ability with children being set for certain subjects.

Extra curricular activities are an important part of school life and take place at lunchtimes and at the end of the school day. Pupils are also given the opportunity to take part in various residential visits during their time at Parkside.

The school fosters close ties with its feeder first schools: Dodford, Sidemoor and Meadows; and with North Bromsgrove High School, to which the majority of pupils transfer.

### Policy Development and Dissemination

This policy was drafted by the PSHE co-ordinator in consultation with senior staff, governors, school nurse, school council representatives and staff of the Sexual Health Education Unit.

Parents were given the opportunity to discuss the draft policy at a parents evening and the teaching staff were able to discuss it at a staff training session.

The policy is made available to teaching and non-teaching staff, community partners and visitors to SRE via the school office. Parents/Carers are invited to view the policy via the school website.

## **Aims of this Policy.**

- \* That the policy contributes to the ethos of valuing and including each individual in the school community.
- \* To provide a description of how SRE is delivered monitored and evaluated in the school.
- \* To set out the framework of values which guides the delivery of SRE and the wider pastoral care of pupils.
- \* To communicate young peoples legal rights to seek confidential advice support and treatment around their sexual health and also parents rights to withdraw their pupils from SRE.
- \* To describe how young people can be helped to access confidential help both within the school and the community.

## **Objectives**

Towards this aim, students will be given;

- \* Objective factual information about the human body and its changes.
- \* Opportunities to clarify some of their attitudes towards friendships, sexuality and gender.
- \* Opportunities to discuss some moral issues, hearing the points of view of others and respecting other people's decisions, rights and bodies.
- \* A chance to explore ideas about family, marriage, parenting and the ways in which people care for each other, and the benefits of stable relationships.
- \* Teaching about sex, sexuality and sexual health whilst not promoting any particular sexual orientation or early sexual activity.

## **Moral and Values Framework**

All those who teach aspects of SRE within the school, including visitors, are expected to be guided by the following values framework which represents the values held in common by the whole school community. The teaching of SRE will encourage students to;

- \* Value and respect themselves.
- \* Value and respect others for who they are, not for what they have or what they can do.
- \* Value healthy sexual relationships which are based on mutual respect, care and goodwill.

\* Value and respect difference in peoples religion, culture, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability and social background. The personal beliefs and attitudes of teachers will not influence the teaching of sex and relationships education in this school.

### **Organisation of School Sex and Relationships Education**

Co-ordinator: Mrs Natalie Mancini

Key Stage 2 and 3 class teachers will deliver the programme.

All staff will be offered training to enable them to build their knowledge and skills and to feel comfortable teaching the programme. This training will be done through the Sexual Health Education Unit.

The teaching methods used, follow established good practice and include small group work, active learning, discussion, role play and project work. Ground rules and distancing techniques are used to establish a safe working environment to facilitate discussions and students are encouraged to reflect on their learning. Leaflets and written material are carefully selected and parents are welcome to view these. The KS3 teaching resource produced by the Sexual Health education unit is the main resource for this Key Stage. Informal language for parts of the human body and sexual activity may be used in the sessions but formal terms will be taught. During their training, teachers will be offered guidance on answering pupils' questions. If a question seems too explicit or inappropriate for the whole class the teacher will acknowledge it and address it later on an individual bases.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of SRE**

The PSHE Co-ordinator collects evidence for the monitoring and evaluation of the SRE programme by means of lesson observations and gathering feedback from teachers and students. Feedback is obtained from group discussions with teachers and students and feedback forms. Parents views are invited at parents evening.

## **Schools Liason Across the Pyramid**

Regular liason meetings are held across the pyramid and the programme is informed by what is taught in the first and high schools with which the school is linked.

## **Complaints Procedure**

Any complaint regarding this programme should be addressed to the PSHE Co-ordinator.

## **Equal Opportunities**

This policy links closely with the Equal Opportunities Policy, the Anti Bullying Policy and the County Guidelines on Child Protection.

The school aims for all students to have equal access to the SRE curriculum and to sources of help and support.

Objective discussion of the diversity of personal, social and sexual preference in relationships will take place in SRE and prejudiced views will be challenged in order to encourage tolerance. Any bullying around sexual behaviour or perceived sexual orientation arising from this prejudice will be taken as a serious matter.

## **Specific Issues Statements**

### **Withdrawal of pupils from SRE**

Any parent wishing to withdraw their child should be encouraged to make an appointment with the PSHE Co-ordinator to discuss the matter. Pupils cannot be withdrawn from any part of the teaching which falls within the National Curriculum.

### **Contraceptive Information**

Pupils will be taught about controlling fertility and safer sex as part of the SRE programme. This will include information on accessing local services for

confidential advice and treatment. Pupils who are withdrawn are still entitled to this information. The Worcestershire's Little Directory will be given to all pupils in Yr 8.

### Confidentiality

The use of ground rules and distancing techniques in SRE should prevent the disclosure of personal information by students in the classroom. Students will be taught that teachers cannot guarantee confidentiality, but that the school nurse and other health professionals can guarantee confidentiality except in cases of abuse or serious harm.

### At Risk

Pupils are deemed to be at risk if they are:

- \* Involved in situations where they can danger themselves or others.
- \* Involved in situations where they are being exploited or exploiting others.
- \* Victims of abuse.

If a teacher learns that a pupils is having or is contemplating having sexual intercourse steps should be taken to ensure that:

- \* Wherever possible the young person is persuaded to talk to their parent or carer.
- \* That the young person understands the need for advice on sexual health and is given precise information on accessing this.
- \* Any child protection issues are addressed.

### Pregnancy

Issues surrounding this will be dealt with by the Headteacher.

### Procedure for supporting any members of the school community infected with HIV, Hepatitis B or C

Staff should not expect to be informed of a pupil's or colleague's HIV or Hepatitis status. A member of staff who is told of a pupil's blood borne viral

status should inform the Head and no one else. The pupils should also be informed that this is being done. No pupil or member of staff will be discriminated against as a result of such a disclosure.