



BURGESS HILL

— JUNIOR —

Sex and Relationships Education – Junior School

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We believe that sex and relationship education is an educational entitlement of all pupils and is an integral part of the preparation for a happy, healthy, fulfilled and successful adult life. The aim of this policy is to communicate clearly to staff, parents, visitors and pupils the manner in which sex and relationship education will be delivered in the Junior School. Our intention is to respect the full range of cultural social, moral and ethical values of our pupils and their parents. This is co-ordinated by the Deputy Head.

AIMS OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

To help and support young people during their physical, emotional, spiritual and moral development and to assist them in learning to manage their emotions and relationships confidently, sensitively and responsibly.

To respect themselves and others and to understand how their bodies will change as they grow.

To promote the ability to make informed decisions based on their personal values and to teach them to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse, including internet and social media use.

To promote an understanding of sex, sexuality and sexual health and to facilitate communication on sexual matters so that pupils develop educational skills they will need in the future as partners, parents/child-minders.

Sex Education, where appropriate, is taught in Science lessons and PSHE. It is important that pupils receive their Sex Education in the wider context of relationships.

Methodology/Content

Information may be presented in a didactic way. A variety of resources and methods of presentation may be used. However if young people are going to make wise, healthy choices about their behaviour they need to be given the opportunity to explore values and attitudes and use approaches that seek to develop skills, self-confidence and raise self-esteem. This is achieved more effectively by increasing pupil centred learning methods. Every effort will be made to protect the privacy of individual students and appropriate use will be made of trained practitioners. Material such as videos and worksheets will be used not only to trigger discussions and promote learning but also to encourage reflection. Copies of such videos and materials will be available for parents to view on request.

WORKING WITH PARENTS

For education to be most effective we believe that it is crucial that school, parents and pupils work together. This is especially true of sex and relationship education.

Policy information is available to all parents on request. There will also be an opportunity for parents to familiarise themselves with any published resources.

Under the Education Act 1996, Section 405, parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education programme. Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to make an appointment to meet the Deputy Head to discuss the issues, although they are under no obligation to do so. Provision will be made for any pupil withdrawn from sex education lessons.

Review

This policy will undertake regular review or after any changes to government legislation or revised sex and relationship education guidelines.

Confidentiality and advice

Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held as confidential for health and legal reasons. The school's confidentiality policy offers guidelines and a support network for staff and pupils. Sensitive and appropriate support will be put into place.

Students who miss Sex and Relationship sessions.

Every attempt will be made to provide a backup session for students who unavoidably miss a relevant session. In cases of long-term absence the Deputy Head will consult with parents as to how to proceed.