



RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION POLICY

In keeping with its ethos and aims The Wallace High School recognises that Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a lifelong process that encompasses the acquisition of skills, knowledge and understanding and the development of attitudes, beliefs and values about personal and social relationships and gender issues. It is recognised that although RSE is organised as a discrete component of the Personal Development programmes, this is an issue that is encountered across many areas of the curriculum. The policy is designed to reflect the ethos and values of the school and will be consulted on with a variety of stakeholders across the school including pupils, parents, staff, and governors.

Framework

The Relationship and Sexuality policy has been informed by a range of documents including our Pastoral Care Policy, Positive Behaviour Management Policy, and Anti-Bullying Policy. These have been considered alongside DENI guidance in the form of circulars 2001/15, 2010/01, 2013/16, 2015/22 and CCEA guidance 2018 along with ETI reports. The school recognises the need for regular review and evaluation of policy and practice and materials used in delivery of the subject.

Aims

In the light of this the school aims to:

- to enhance the personal development, self-esteem and well-being of the pupils
- to help the pupils develop healthy, appropriate and respectful friendships and relationships with adults and their peers
- to foster an understanding of and a healthy attitude to human sexuality and relationships in a legal, moral, social and spiritual framework
- to foster an appreciation of the value of marriage, a committed relationship and stable family life
- to promote responsible behaviour and the ability to make informed decisions
- to help pupils make positive, responsible choices about themselves and others and the way they live their lives

- to nurture in pupils tolerance of opinions, values and attitudes which are different to their own
- to promote an appreciation of the value of human life.

In implementing the policy the school will ensure that the developmental needs and understanding of the pupils will be taken into account at all stages.

It must be remembered that the welfare of the pupil is paramount and that although the child's right to privacy must be respected, teachers must not promise confidentiality.

In the event of any member of staff receiving or uncovering information about inappropriate relationships or sexual behaviour the teacher must report the matter to the Designated Teacher.

Any teacher who complies with the School Policy will receive the full support of the Board of Governors.

Curricular & extra-curricular provision of RSE education is overseen by the PD, RSE Coordinator and who undertakes the regular review and updating of resources recorded in an Appendix to this policy and updated annually (in June). The programme is delivered through Personal Development timetabled periods in class groups by a range of staff, including the Group Tutors.

External providers are used alongside internal provision for aspects of the RSE programme when a whole year group can be brought together for greater interaction and discussion of the material topic being discussed.

Responsibilities

The PD/RSE Co-ordinator in Wallace High School is responsible for the co-ordination and oversight of the RSE programme and its implementation. They also monitor and evaluate the material used on a regular basis to ensure it is fit for purpose and of a high standard. They liaise with external providers and are responsible for the overview of the curricular input of departments and the audit of where aspects of the programme are covered in subject content. The co-ordinator reports to the Vice-Principal (Pastoral) who in turn reports to the Principal.

Appendix:

Curricular input into RSE:

Personal Development:

Year 10: Relationships & sexuality. Sex & the law, abortion, STIS & contraception

Year 11: Sexuality & relationships. Sex & the law.

Year 12: Relationships

Religious Studies

Year 10: theme of the Ten Commandments - 'Do not commit Adultery'

GCSE: Ethics module - relationships including marriage, divorce, homosexuality and heterosexuality, abortion.

Biology

Year 8: Reproduction topic covers reproduction from a wholly biological perspective to include changes at puberty.

Year 10: Material on genetics and inheritance reviews Yr 8 topic and also develops understanding of the need for responsible attitudes. STIs and methods of contraception are also dealt with

Year 12: Changes at puberty along with STIs & contraception.

Home Economics

Year 8: Family Matters explores roles and responsibilities and dealing with conflict in families

Extra-curricular

Year 11: Love for Life presentation entitled 'Icebergs & babies' covering pressures on young people, media & sex, self-image, consequences of sex.