

Townsend Church of England School



Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) Policy

“Sex and relationship education (SRE) is learning about physical and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of respect in a relationship and it includes content on discussing sexual intercourse, sexuality, and sexual health.”

“Effective SRE is essential if young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives.” DfES 7/2000

It is a statutory requirement that we teach our pupils SRE. The programme is planned according to the pupil’s age group and their level of maturity. Aspects of SRE are taught as an integral part of Townsend’s broad and balanced curriculum provision in Science, Religious Education and in Learning for Life sessions. Most of the issues within the SRE curriculum are met at Key Stage 3 and reinforced at Key Stage 4.

We believe SRE promotes student’s confidence, self-esteem and emotional wellbeing. It is taught in the context of relationships and will help students to form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships based on respect for themselves and for others at home, school, work and in the community. In this way students are able to develop their ideas in a safe and supportive environment. We believe SRE at school should be complementary to that given at home.

SRE education helps students to

- Discuss the values of love, respect and care
- Promote self-image, self-esteem, self-confidence and empathy for others
- Appreciate and discuss the value of family life, stable and loving relationships, marriage and the responsibilities of parenthood
- Gain knowledge of human reproduction in gradually increasing detail
- Use correct terminology
- Recognise and challenge stereotypes for example in relation to gender
- Learn to make choices and understand that they have rights, including the right to say 'no'
- Understand the need for personal hygiene
- Learn about basic external anatomy and internal sexual parts of males and females, sexual intercourse, conception, pregnancy and birth

Parents’/carers’ rights

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all SRE except that provided within the framework of the National Curriculum. Notice of intent to withdraw must be in writing and addressed to the Head Teacher.

Parents/carers have the right to view and discuss the content of resources used to teach the SRE programme.

Governors

The Governing Body will take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that any provision is in accordance with current guidelines laid down by the Government. They will also pay regard to representations made to them by anyone connected with the community served by Townsend Church of England School. In addition they will, in consultation with the Head Teacher, consider advice received from Health Authorities, and religious or ethnic minority groups.

Confidentiality

Effective SRE should enable young people to talk to a trusted adult. There may be cases when a teacher learns from an under 16-year-old that they are having, or contemplating having, sexual intercourse. In these circumstances we make every reasonable effort to ensure that:

- wherever possible, the young person is persuaded to talk to their parent or carer;
- any potential or actual child protection or safeguarding issues are addressed (see Child Protection Policy);

When the teacher who receives the information believes there is a child protection issue to be addressed, they should refer the case to the designated teacher for child protection. The teacher should also make clear to the pupil that they cannot guarantee confidentiality.

If the teacher is in any doubt they must seek immediate advice from the designated teacher for child protection.

Curriculum Content

As our curriculum responds to pupils needs and complies with any statutory or advisory guidance from the Department for Education there may be variations to the outline given below. Additional information is available if required.

SRE delivered through Learning for Life

Year 7

Spring 2 – Relationships (1)

- Parents / Grandparents/ Friendships/ Dating
- Qualities you would look for in a relationship |
- Emotions – how they may be affected

Summer 2 - Sex Education (1)

- Intercourse
- Puberty
- Changes
- Hygiene
- Sexually transmitted infections (STI's)
- Protection
- Condoms

Year 8

Spring 2 -Relationships (2)

- Romantic relationships
- Physical affection
- Healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Friendships
- Looked after children
- Child carers
- Bereavement

Summer 2 - Sex Education (2)

- Birth control
- Sexually transmitted infections (STI's)
- Chlamydia
- Herpes

Year 9

Spring 2 - Relationships (3)

- Sexual relationship
- Abuse – Domestic/ Child /Physical/Neglect

Summer 2 - Sex education (3)

- Teenage pregnancy
- HIV
- AIDS

Year 10

Spring 2 - Sex Education

- Contraception,
- Sexually transmitted infections (STI's)
- Pelvic inflammatory disease
- Cervical cancer
- Teenage pregnancy
- Sexual abuse

Summer 1 - Relationships

- Healthy relationships – romantic – same sex – relationships with disabled partners
- Mental and physical abuse – changing relationships with parents
- Losing someone you love – bereavement
- Marriage – cohabitation, arranged marriage
- Divorce

SRE delivered through Religious Education

In Key Stage 4

The examination specification includes the following:

- Religious attitudes (Christian and Muslim) towards human sexuality
- Contemporary British views to sexuality
- Age of consent
- Religious attitudes (Christian and Muslim) towards sexual relationship outside of marriage
- Contemporary British views to sexual relationship outside of marriage
- Methods of contraception and family planning with religious and non-religious views explored
- The concept of abortion
- The legal position on abortion in the UK
- Religious attitudes (Christian and Muslim) towards abortion

At Key Stage 5

Pupils explore Sexual Ethics which involves examining the following:

- The importance of marriage and why some religious believers it is the only place for sexual intercourse
- Homosexuality- the progress towards equal rights
- Issues around homosexuality such as gay adoption, gay clergy, whether the concept of marriage extend to same sex relationships

SRE delivered through Science

Key Stage 3 - Human reproduction topic

- Sex cells (gametes) and sexual organs
- Process of fertilisation
- Menstrual Cycle
- Developing foetus (and effects of drugs on foetus)
- How contraception and fertility drugs work

Key Stage 4- Unit B5 The Human Body (OCR Examination Board 21st Century science)

- Role of hormones in human reproduction (including changes in puberty)
- The menstrual cycle and hormones involved
- Contraception
- Treating infertility