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## **The Garth School Policy for Sex and Relationships Education**

### **Introduction**

Sex and relationships education is life long learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the nature and importance of family life and bringing up children. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

Throughout the scheme emphasis is laid on choices and decision making in order to encourage personal responsibility, consideration for others and independence.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the policies for PSHE and child protection.

### **School Ethos and Values**

- The governors, parents and staff believe that sex and relationship education is to be taught in a sensitive and caring way.
- We expect other learning to be enhanced by the increased self esteem and confidence, which a good sex and relationship education can bring about.
- We value all staff and pupils as individuals, worthy of dignity and respect, in order to build self esteem allowing them to form satisfying relationships with others.
- Our aim is to teach our pupils how to behave responsibly and how to avoid exploitation.
- We aim to ensure that sex and relationship education is given in such a manner as to encourage pupils to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life.

### **Aims and Implementation**

Our aims for sex and relationships education are:

- To prove knowledge and information which all pupils are entitled to
- To clarify/reinforce knowledge pupils may have already acquired
- To raise pupils self esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others
- To help pupils understand their sexual feelings and behaviour
- To develop skills(language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) which are necessary in a range of situations
- To promote acceptance and appropriate behaviour in public and private situations



- To give practice of strategies which reduce the risk of exploitation, misunderstanding and abuse
- To provide the confidence to be an active member of society
- To support access to information and facilities
- To promote the benefits of making and enhancing relationships
- To help pupils prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

## **Entitlement**

All our pupils, from 2-19 years, despite their special educational needs, are entitled to a programme of sex and relationship education. However, it is a legal requirement that students of secondary age, in whatever type of school, receive a compulsory programme of sex and relationship education. This must include education about HIV, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

## **Statutory Requirement for the withdrawal of pupils**

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from sex and relationship education, except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum for Science. In the event of doing so they are asked to discuss this with the Head Teacher, to be clear about what the student will do when withdrawn. They are not obliged to do so, but should pupils who have been withdrawn from sex and relationships education at other times; they will be answered honestly by staff.

## **Role of the PSHE Co-ordinator and named Governor**

The role of the co-ordinator is to monitor the delivery of sex and relationships throughout the school, to write the policy for sex and relationships in consultation with other relevant members of staff and to ensure that the scheme of work is relevant to the needs of the pupils at The Garth School. The co-ordinator will liaise, as necessary, with the named Governor and any other visitors eg the school nurse, who may be able to assist in the delivery of SRE.

## **Staff Development**

It is part of the role of the PSHE Co-ordinator to attend training courses as necessary and, in turn, to disseminate relevant information to the staff concerned. The school nurse and Positive Health can be contacted to provide in-service training for staff.

## **Organisation and Delivery of Sex and Relationships**

At the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, pupils follow relevant units taken from The Foundation Stage Curriculum and the Equal's PSHE document. Relevant units which address Sex education are : 'Making Relationships' and 'Self Care' ( Foundation Stage ) , 'Developing a Healthier Lifestyle' and 'Sex and Relationships' (Equals PSHE KS1 )

At KS3 pupils follow the Equals PSHE curriculum, studying the unit, 'Sex and Relationships Education '

Students at Key Stages 4/5 follow the Equal's Moving on Curriculum, studying units on 'Personal Care' and 'Sex Education'.

Pupils are taught in class groups unless it is deemed that pupils need 1:1 advice. At certain times it may not be appropriate to teach the whole group, therefore, it may be more sensitive to teach single sex sessions occasionally. When and if other professionals are asked to contribute to sex education they will comply with this policy and the school ethos. Parents will be informed when sex and relationship education is to take place during the term and a brief outline of what areas will be covered. A teacher will always be present on these occasions.

Due consideration will be given to teaching staff regarding their own personal beliefs when teaching sex and relationship education.

This subject will be taught through a variety of methods including:

- Role play
- Visual Aids
- Discussion

Parents will be given a broad outline of the teaching of sex and relationship education at each stage if requested. Parents can make an appointment to discuss the relevant concerns they may have.

## **Use of Community Based Agencies**

From time to time it may be necessary for Garth School Staff to request support from Community Based Agencies to assist in the teaching of sex and relationship education:

- School Nurse
- Health Clinics
- Positive Health

These agencies can provide help with planning the curriculum, assist in teaching programmes in the classroom, provide access for visits out of school and help with the delivery of the sex and relationship education programme working alongside the class teacher.

## **Assessment**

Assessment is carried out on a regular basis by the teacher delivering the subject. Records of achievement are kept in each pupil's file.

## **The National Healthy School Standard**

The Garth School is working towards the National Healthy School Standard. The PHSE co-ordinator is also working towards the certification of PHSE co-ordinators, which includes detailed up to date information on sex and relationships education.

## **Disseminating the Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

In developing this policy consultation was made with the teaching and non-teaching staff of the school, the governors and the school nurse. Parents and Carers are encouraged to approach the school to discuss issues. The policy should be made available for them to read if they wish. Contact with the school on any such matters should be made with the Head.

Copies of the policy will be issued to all staff and a copy can be found in the Head's office and in the master file in the medical room. The policy will be reviewed by the co-ordinator at the appropriate time.

## **Related Policies**

Other policies at The Garth School which relate to sex and relationships are:

- PSHE
- Drugs
- Citizenship
- Health and Safety
- Child Protection
- Careers
- Equal Opportunities
- Race Equality
- Anti-Bullying

In writing this policy reference has been made to local and National Guidance:

- DfEE Sex and Relationships Guidance 0116/2000
- Ofsted Report on SRE 2002
- Lea Guidance
- Local Healthy Schools Programme Documentation

# SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY



THE SPALDING  
SPECIAL SCHOOLS FEDERATION

**THE GARTH  
SCHOOL**

*Achieving Together*

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