



# **Arbour Vale School**

## **Specialist Sports College**

# **Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

**September 2017  
(Review September 2018)**

## Content

Sex education at Arbour Vale School and house provides knowledge, and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes, which will encourage pupils to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way. Sex education is taught across the whole school. The pupils' levels of personal development are taken into account and the concept of the spiral curriculum has been adopted.

### Knowledge and information - a broad overview

EYFS	Myself, growing and changing, relationships, friendship, family Life
Year 5	Self-awareness, growing and changing, sexual characteristics, Physical and emotional development.
Year 6	Personal relationships, friendship, appropriate behaviour. Growing up physical and emotional changes, menstruation, where to go for information.
Year 7	The family, puberty, similarities and differences between the changes boys and girls go through, conception, appropriate behaviour.
Year 8	Self-awareness, puberty, personal safety, friendship, relationships, family life, gender issues, conception, pregnancy and birth.
Year 9	Decision making, risk taking, consequences, drugs, relationships, sexuality, contraception, HIV and AIDS. Approached from the perspective of an adolescent.
Year 10	Family and Home, relationships, conception and birth, pregnancy, contraception, HIV and AIDS and other STD's, sexual lifestyles, sex and the law, helping agencies, fostering and adoption, child protection, different faiths and cultures. Preparing for a new baby, ante natal and post-natal care, caring for a new baby.
Year 11	Reinforcement of the content in Year 10 as appropriate.

### Values and Beliefs

There is a strong emphasis on encouraging pupils to consider the importance of the values held by the school as described under the heading of The Moral Framework.

## **Skills**

Pupils at all ages will be helped to develop the following skills\_

- The ability to communicate their thoughts and feelings to others
- The ability to form and maintain relationships
- The ability to make informed decisions
- The ability to be assertive
- To recognise and use the opportunities to develop a healthy lifestyle.

## **Equal Opportunities**

Arbour Vale School is committed to working towards equality of opportunity in all aspects of school life. The policy has been written in accordance with the guidelines laid down within the school's equal opportunities policy. The school is sensitive to the beliefs and moral values held by all cultures and represented within our school.

## **Organisation**

- The planning and delivery of Sex Education is lead and organised by the Curriculum :Leader for Personal Social and Health Education in liaison
- with advice from the local PCT Health Education Team
- Delivery takes place through planned aspects of Personal, Social and Health Education, Science and Religious Education. Also through addressing moral and ethical issues which may arise from apparently unrelated topics in national curriculum subjects and pastoral time
- A wide variety of teaching approaches are used to give pupils relevant information, to enable moral issues to be explored through discussion and to acquire appropriate skills. Ground rules are set by each group so that controversial topics can be handled appropriately.
- Classroom arrangements and pupil groupings: pupils are taught in groups according to their needs. Adult support is used to support pupils appropriately when topics of a sensitive nature are being addressed.
- Resources: a wide range of materials is used and these are available for parents to view. A range of DVDs and film clips are used as appropriate.
- Staff: with regard to sex education, only staff who feel comfortable with the subject are directly involved although all staff are aware of the curriculum. Staff are trained internally by school staff or by attending courses. All staff are expected to teach within the school's moral framework.

## **Contraceptive Advice**

Pupils will be taught about all forms of contraception in terms of family planning and safer sex. Questions about forms of contraception will be answered accurately and honestly. If pupils need further information or advice they will be given the names of appropriate agencies and personnel to contact. They will be encouraged to discuss such issues with their parents.

## **Confidentiality**

As a general rule a pupil's confidentiality will be maintained by the member of staff. Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential.

Clear ground rules will be made by all groups in sex education lessons and staff will make a statement about confidentiality and school policy. Staff will use their professional judgement if they feel that the teacher responsible for child protection needs to be informed about any other discussions with pupils. In all cases pupils will be made aware of the reasons why the teacher responsible for child protection needs to be informed and will be supported throughout the process.

## **Withdrawing pupils from Sex Education**

Parents wishing to exercise their right to withdraw their child from sex education are asked to contact the Head teacher or the Personal, Social and Health Education Curriculum Leader. They will be encouraged to give their reasons but are under no obligation to do so. Once a pupil has been withdrawn from sex education they cannot take part again until the parent has given approval.

## **Complaints Procedure**

Any complaints about the sex education program should be made to the Head teacher who will decide on a course of action with the governors.

## **Visitors**

Outside visitors are involved in the actual teaching of the sex education programme, working alongside school staff. Any visitors, including other professionals will be made aware of the sex education policy and the child protection policy

## **HIV and AIDS**

It is school policy not to inform teaching staff of members of the school community infected or affected by HIV. The subject will be addressed as part of the sex education programme in a sensitive way in order to give information, alleviate anxiety and counteract prejudice.

## Working with Parents

Arbour Vale School places the utmost importance on sharing equal and joint responsibility with parents for their child's education and sexual matters. Any particular religious or cultural views will be taken into account and considered carefully in the light of our equal opportunities policy when delivering the sex education programme.

Parents will be invited to meet with the Curriculum Leader for Personal, Social and Health Education to discuss the sex education programme prior to its commencement and at any other time of mutual convenience. They will also be offered an opportunity to view the resources used. Parents of pupils with communication difficulties will be offered the use of a home/school book.

By working with parents in these ways we anticipate that withdrawal from the sex education programme will only occur in exceptional cases.

## Procedures of Policy Monitoring and Evaluation

The policy will be reviewed annually taking into account teachers', pupils' and parents' views about the sex education programme.

### Other policies which have relevance to sex education are:

Equal opportunities  
Anti bullying  
Behaviour  
Drugs awareness  
Personal, Social and Health Education  
Child Protection

Policy	Review	Staff members
Sex & Relationship Education	Sept 2012	DR / MR
	Sept 2014	DR
External Review	Jan 16	Bill Brown and DR
review	Sep 17	AB