



SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

1 Sponsors' Statement

- 1.1 All The Bishop of Winchester Academy policies exist to support the Sponsors' vision, Christian ethos and values that are embedded in the day-to-day and long term running of the Academy. Each policy evidences the commitment of the Sponsors to the principles and values of honesty, respect, hospitality, compassion, love, forgiveness, self-discipline, creativity and hope. This policy contributes to the development of young people and the community through all Academy activities and in particular through the specialism of Enterprise and Innovation, and Maths.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 The Bishop of Winchester Academy recognises that parents are the key figures in helping their children cope with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up and in preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities which sexual maturity brings. Our policy and teaching sets out to be complementary to this process and supportive of the role of parents.

3 Who does this policy apply to?

- 3.1 This policy applies to all staff and Governors of The Bishop of Winchester Academy.

4 Who is responsible for carrying out this policy?

- 4.1 The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Governing Body of The Bishop of Winchester Academy and remain under constant review by a designated member of the Academy Leadership Team.

5 What are the principles behind this policy?

- 5.1 This policy aims to guide the teaching of sex and relationships, ensuring information is presented in a factual, objective and balanced manner so as to enable students to:
- i. Understand the physical aspects of sexual behaviour.
 - ii. Comprehend the range of sexual attitudes on behaviour in present day society.
 - iii. Know what is and what is not legal.
 - iv. Understand the physical, social, emotional and moral consequences of sexual behaviour.
 - v. Consider their own attitudes to make informed, reasoned and responsible decisions about the lifestyles they will adopt whilst they are at school and as adults.

6 Procedure

- 6.1 Sex education is treated as an aspect of inter-personal relationships and not just in the biological sense. It is taught in Science lessons and by outside agencies, as well as being covered in RE lessons and through other cross-curricular learning opportunities. It is also embodied in the general ethos of the Academy in terms of self-respect and respect for, and sensitivity towards, others.
- 6.2 All students will undertake lessons which deal with the physical, social, emotional and moral aspects of sexual relationships. The 'readiness' of young people for such programmes in terms of physical and emotional maturity varies considerably; hence the need for a deliberate element of repetition. Knowledge and understanding are emphasised alongside the value of stable, caring and supportive relationships.

Students cover the following:-

- i. Biological aspects of human reproduction and contraception and the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence.
- ii. Sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and AIDS.
- iii. Dealing with adolescent relationships; the possible consequences of sexual relationships, physical attachment and love and the role and significance of marriage. The Christian attitude towards stable relationships, marriage and family life is explored.
- iv. The legal, moral and emotional implications of sexual relationships; the issues of peer group pressure and norms of behaviour, male/female differences in attitude, value conflicts and the different bases for making moral decisions.

Right of Withdrawal

- 6.3 All parents have the right to withdraw their children from part of the Academy's programme of sex education. This relates to sessions with outside agencies, as there is no right of withdrawal from aspects of biology taught as part of the national curriculum. Parents who wish to exercise their right should contact their son/daughter's Head of Year.

7 Policy review

- 7.1 This policy will be reviewed annually by the Academy Leadership team as part of the Academy annual review process.
- 7.2 This policy will be reviewed and submitted to the Governing Body. This will allow Governors to assess its implementation and effectiveness.
- 7.3 This policy will be actively promoted and implemented throughout the Academy.