



## **Sex and Relationships Policy**

### **Introduction**

A small group of representatives of staff, governors and parents and carers reviewed our policy, consulted the latest DCFS and OFSTED guidance and produced the following document. As part of their responsibilities for management of the school the Governors have played a key role in the development of the policy.

### **Morals and Values of SRE at Cleeve**

At Cleeve we focus on teaching SRE in the context of Relationships using a variety of strategies. This enables students to develop their self esteem and emotional well being to form and maintain relationships, which are based on respect. The Governors will take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that Sex and Relationships Education is taught with due regard for moral considerations and value of family life. Governors wish to take into account representations or advice from religious groups and minority ethnic communities, when deemed necessary.

### **Definition of Sex and Relationship Education**

It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health.

It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity

Sex and relationships education have three main elements

#### **Attitudes and values**

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
- learning the value of family life, and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children
- learning the value of respect, love and care
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas and
- developing critical thinking as part of decision-making

#### **Personal and social skills**

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- developing self-respect and empathy for others
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- managing conflict
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse



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### **Knowledge and understanding**

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services
- learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay and
- the avoidance of unplanned pregnancy

( taken from **Sex and Relationship Education Guidance** Ref: DfES 0116/2000 )

### **Aims and Objectives of Sex and Relationships Education.**

At Cleeve we aim to give factual, correct information, delivered in an objective way in order to empower young people to make informed decisions.

The following aims are embedded in the schools overall aims stated in the School Improvement Plan and in line with DCFS Sex and Relationship Education Guidance.

#### ***Aims***

1. To support and help young people through their physical, emotional and moral development
2. To help young people to learn to respect themselves and others and to move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood
3. To help develop the skills and understanding to live confident, healthy and independent lives

#### ***Objectives***

- To reinforce that sexual activity is a natural part of a fulfilling human relationship
- To develop self esteem, self confidence, and an understanding of their own sexuality as well as that of others.
- To promote a positive self image and so respect themselves and others
- To learn and understand the functions and development of the human body
- To promote awareness and discuss issues about sexuality and personal relationships
- To promote awareness and understand various methods of contraception
- To promote awareness and understand sexually transmitted infections including HIV/Aids
- To encourage effective communication between people by developing assertiveness and negotiating skills
  - To enable pupils to learn reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits of such delay
  - To encourage young people to view sexual activity in the context of a suitable loving, responsible relationship such as marriage and other stable relationships
  - To help young people make positive health choices and inform them how to obtain appropriate advice on sexual health issues
  - To promote awareness of the variety of lifestyles experienced by individuals and groups



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- To promote non-judgemental acceptance and understanding of the cultural and religious attitudes towards relationships

### Organisation and Delivery.

The Head of Pupil Development is responsible for coordinating the policy and for curriculum content.

SRE will be taught to yrs 7-9 in set groups, with the provision for single sex groups as appropriate. Yrs 10 – 11 are taught in tutor groups again with the provision of single sex groups if required.

The school Nurse will be invited to support the delivery of the SRE curriculum.

Other agencies/ visiting speakers may be invited to input into the programme. They will be appraised of this policy. There will be discussions before any input, including on confidentiality issues, and joint evaluation afterwards. No visitor will work with pupils in a classroom situation without a teacher present.

Sex and Relationships Education is delivered through the syllabus for PSHE and during science lessons. **The full syllabus is available on request.** Parents have the right to withdraw their children from any SRE that falls outside of the statutory curriculum (*Education Act, 1996* - they cannot withdraw from human reproduction as in NC Science, for example. Any parents expressing concerns will be invited into to school for discussions with the Head of Pupil Development and teacher responsible for delivering the programme, and to view materials and resources. Should they still decide to exercise this right school will make provision for the supervision of the child whilst these lessons are being taught. The parent will be advised that they have an obligation to provide the information at home using information available from the DCFS.

The teaching in science will reflect the ethos of the Sex and Relationships Policy but it is part of the National Curriculum, which is statutory, where the right of the individual to be withdrawn does not apply.

### Outline of Curriculum.

#### Key Stage 3

Yr 7 Focuses on Dealing with Change and Puberty. This follows on from what students are taught in Science in the Autumn Term.

- To enable pupils to understand how much they have changed since they were babies
- To understand that they have changed not only physically but in all respects of their lives
- To see themselves as individuals with a greater sense of self as an independent person with aspirations
- To appreciate that puberty is a normal process
- To gain an understanding of some of the changes taking place during puberty
- To distinguish between the myth and reality associated with pubertal changes
- To discuss and respond to problems that young people might raise
- To enable pupils to express their feelings
- To empathise with others



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Yr 9 Focuses on managing students own health and dealing with risk.

- To understand the variety of relationships indicated by the word 'love'
- To identify what qualities might be sought in a boyfriend/girlfriend
- To discuss the sexual issues that might arise in relationship and explore the attitudes and values involved
- To identify one's responses to various sexual behaviours
- To discuss the different messages about sexuality which come from society
- To understand the pressures involved in having early sexual intercourse
- To develop skills of negotiation and assertiveness
- To learn about a range of contraceptive methods, including emergency contraception.
- To explore myths and misinformation about contraception
- To know the laws relating to sexual relationships
- To understand the purpose of the law
- To show an understanding of the values which underpin current law

Key Stage 4 –

Sex and Relationships education is delivered to KS4 in tutor time as part of their PSHE program. They focus on the following topics.

- Myths and worries about Sex
- Safer Sex
- STI's
- Pregnancy and choices
- Abortion
- Bringing up a child

This delivery is supplemented with talks from outside agencies to further build on student's knowledge and understanding of the issues covered.

### **Involvement - Gloucestershire Healthy Schools**

As part of our Healthy Schools Award, SRE forms a key part in the emotional development and wellbeing of students.

### **Inclusion**

At Cleeve we have a commitment to ensure that our SRE programme is relevant to students and is taught in a way which is appropriate to that Key Stage.

All students have the right of access to the same quality and quantity of sex and relationships education. As stated in Cleeve School's Equal Opportunities Policy "all of its members should receive their education unhindered by discrimination and will have an equal chance to make good use of the education it offers"

### **Links to other Policies**

The SRE policy, with the Drugs policy, forms part of the policy for Pastoral Provision at Cleeve School. See also :

Safeguarding Children Policy  
Anti Bullying Policy

Equal Opportunities

Behaviour Policy



## Sex and Relationships Policy

### Staff Training

Given the sensitive and controversial nature of the subject, all staff involved in sex and relationships education must be carefully selected and properly informed, and receive adequate training and regular updates. Training will be delivered by the Gloucester Healthy Schools team as and when requested by staff or as the Head of Pupil Development feels there is a direct need. Governors will also be offered an annual opportunity to be updated on any changes and developments.

### Confidentially and Child Protection.

Sex and Relationships Education does not just cover the taught curriculum. Many pupils seek advice informally about either general or specific issues. On some occasions the issue of under age sexual activity or child abuse may be raised. Staff should follow the guidelines as set out in the Staff Handbook for confidentiality, the disclosure of information and suspected child abuse. Issues such as sexual harassment would be treated in line with the Bullying Policy. Contraceptive advice – pupils may be referred to the school nurse, who if appropriate may suggest other health professionals. Pupils will be encouraged to discuss such issues with their parents.

### Managing, Monitoring and Evaluation of SRE

Both the policy and classroom delivery will be monitored and evaluated as part of the regular cycle of self review.

Procedures will include:

- lesson observations by the *Head of Pupil Development & SST*
- reporting back to the Student Provision committee twice a year
- evaluation by pupils of the programme focussing on learning outcomes and appropriate delivery

The policy will be reviewed, after consideration of all of the above, at least every two years.

### .Evaluation, assessment and reporting to parents

The effectiveness of the programme is to be reviewed formally once a year by the link Governor, in consultation with the Head of Pupil Development. This evaluation will then be reported back to the Student Provision committee. A policy statement is contained in the school prospectus and handbook given to parents on transfer from Primary School. A copy is available on request from the school office. Parents are always welcome to contact the Head of Pupil Development if they have any questions or concerns.

**The Governing Body has full confidence in the staff of the school and believes that the best interests of the pupils and their parents will be served by the sensitive consideration of all matters relating to human sexuality. Parents should feel free to make contact with the school on any issue of concern to them or their child.**