

Relationship and Sex Education Policy
Linwood School
Secondary Level Key Stage 3, 4 and 5

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KEY ISSUES

- This policy has been written by the PSHE subject leaders with consultation with the Head teacher, Governors, staff and school nurse.
- Relationship and sex education for pupils is the lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect love and care.
- We acknowledge the role of parents as the main educators of sex and relationships, with the school having a complementary and supportive role.
- We offer a relationships and sex education programme that is developmental, suitable to the age of the pupil, and is in an environment where pupils feel confident that their questions will be answered sensitively.
- Relationship and Sex Education content is identified in the RSE curriculum plan 2020 and the PSHE curriculum plan 2020.
- The subject is taught through discrete lessons, circle time and individually when required
- Clear ground rules are set for lessons.
- The plans were written in line with DFE guidelines and in collaboration with Dorset Health.
- Pupils are always encouraged to talk to parents / carers teachers if there is a problem. Information given will be treated in confidence, however there may be occasion where information is passed onto the designated safeguarding leads (See **Safe Guarding and Child Protection Policy**).
- Health professionals who are involved in delivering programmes of study are expected to work within the school's policy. However, when they are in their professional role they should follow their own professional codes of conduct.
- The DFE Statutory Guidance for RSE and Health Education from September 2020 states:
 - Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from any aspect of Relationships Education or Health Education.
 - Parents will be able to withdraw their child (following discussion with the school) from any or all aspects of Sex Education, other than those which are part of the science curriculum, up to and until three terms before the age of 16.
 - After that point, the guidance states that '*if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.*'



Springwood
Campus



Littlewood
Campus



LINWOOD
TEACHING SCHOOL ALLIANCE



"Entitlement plus opportunity"

- Where pupils are withdrawn from sex education, schools should document the process and will have to *'ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal.'*



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Description of the School

Linwood is a special school, incorporating Springwood Campus, Littlewood Campus, Woodford Campus, Summerwood and CHI, for pupils with learning difficulties situated in Bournemouth. Pupils are statemented or have EHCP's and aged between 3 and 19 years. They have a range of learning and communication difficulties and some also have physical, sensory and/or behavioural difficulties. The pupils come from a wide geographical area from a cross section of society.

Policy formation and consultation process

This policy has been written by the PSHE subject leaders with full consultation with the Executive Head teacher, Governors, staff and school nurse.

Aims and Objectives

Relationship and sex education for secondary phase pupils is the lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect love and care. At Linwood School sex and relationship education builds, in a responsible and developmentally appropriate way, on pupils existing knowledge and experience of their bodies, relationships and their world around them. The subject leaders carefully scrutinize teaching materials to ensure they are appropriate with regard to the age and the religious and cultural background of the pupils.

The teacher should address the following aims

- Acknowledge and complement the role of parents/carers as sex and relationship educators and liaise with them
- Counter misleading notions and folklore.
- Provide acceptable vocabulary for all parts of the body and encourage sensible attitudes to natural bodily functions.
- Provide information about sexual matters in an open and frank way, being sensitive to the needs of individuals and groups.
- Generate an atmosphere within which the pupils can ask questions and discuss
- Sexual matters without embarrassment.
- Stress the value of family life.
- Promote loving and caring relationships and the idea of mutual responsibility within these relationships.
- Increase awareness of sexual identity and develop ideas of non stereotyped gender roles.
- Help pupils understand that they have rights and should have control over who touches their bodies and also to increase communicative skills about such matters.
- Help pupils to understand that others have rights about who touches their bodies.
- provide young people with information about different types of contraception, safer sex, and how to access local sources of advice and information
- Promote an understanding of the consequences of ones actions in relation to sexual activity and parenthood.
- Develop skills and promote responsible attitudes for future parents and child carers

Moral and values framework.

We acknowledge the role of parents/carers as the main educators of sex and relationships, with the school having a complementary and supportive role. We offer a relationship and sex education programme that is developmental, suitable to the age of the pupil, and is in an environment where pupils feel confident that their questions will be answered sensitively.

We are continually developing and are implementing a comprehensive relationship and sex education programme of study embracing values, attitudes and behaviour as well as knowledge. We understand the need for all pupils to consider relationships and responsibilities and we encourage pupils to have due regard to moral considerations to family life. Sensitive issues such as AIDS, contraception, sexually transmitted diseases and coping with social pressures which might lead to irresponsible sexual behavior will be addressed at a suitable level to individuals understanding and maturity. Work will be undertaken to help pupils protect themselves from abuse.

Sex and Relationship Education for Key Stages 3, 4 and 5

Changing Adolescent Body
Families
Respectful Relationships including friendships
Online and Media
Being Safe
Intimate and sexual relationships including sexual health

A list of resources and DVDs used to support this are available on the RSE curriculum Plan 2020 on the school website.

Assessment

Pupils' learning, progression and attainment will be assessed using their personalised assessment maps and pupil profile summary sheets.

Differentiation

The pupils at Linwood School have individual education programmes for Personal Social Health Education. Relationship and Sex education will be delivered to suit the needs of individuals with regard to individual rates of development both physically and mentally.

Equal Opportunities

Linwood School is committed to a policy of Equal Opportunities in all aspects of school life. See separate Equal Opportunities policy.

Organisation of Sex and Relationship education.

Relationship and Sex Education is identified in the RSE curriculum plan 2020. The subject is taught through discrete lessons and circle time and individually when required. Clear ground rules are set for lessons. The plans were written in line with DFE guidelines and in collaboration with Dorset Health. Class teachers are given guidance on the content of the lesson and differentiate as appropriate to the students they are teaching. Other professionals such as the school nursing service are involved in the delivery of sex and relationship education. Relationship and sex education is taught in mixed groups and a variety of teaching and learning styles are used.

Resources are selected for their suitability for the different age groups with regard to the different stages of individual development, both physically and mentally. At times it may be necessary to work with individuals or small groups if a specific issue is identified.

Resources are available from the PSHE subject leaders. Staff are asked to use the resources in conjunction with the RSE curriculum plan 2020 to ensure progression and continuity. There are also resources for staff development.

It is the responsibility of the subject leaders to update the staff on new developments and arrange Inset training as required. It is important to allow our pupils to learn at their own pace with regular reinforcement. The spiral nature of the RSE curriculum throughout the school allows for this and ensures development through the Key Stages.

Specific Issues

Confidentiality

Pupils are always encouraged to talk to parents / carers teachers if there is a problem. Information given will be treated in confidence, however there may be occasion where information is passed onto the designated safeguarding lead (**See separate Safe Guarding and Child Protection Policy**). Health professionals who are involved in delivering programmes of study are expected to work within the schools policy. However, when they are in their professional role they should follow their own professional codes of conduct.

Viewing the Videos and Materials

Via the school website all parents have access to the RSE Curriculum plan 2020 which identifies DVD's and materials that students will be accessing. The videos and materials may be viewed by parents/carers upon request. Requests should be made to the class teacher or subject leaders.

Child Withdrawal Procedures.

The DFE statutory Guidance for RSE and Health Education from September 2020 states:

- Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from any aspect of Relationships Education or Health Education.
- Parents will be able to withdraw their child (following discussion with the school) from any or all aspects of Sex Education, other than those which are part of the science curriculum, up to and until three terms before the age of 16.
- After that point, the guidance states that *'if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.'*
- Where pupils are withdrawn from sex education, schools should document the process and will have to *'ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal.'*

Child Sexual Abuse and Bullying Procedure.

See Child Protection Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy.

Complaints Procedure

The school will make every effort to respond to any complaints made by parents. Beyond this the Governing Body have an appeals procedure, which will view complaints independently.

Procedures for the involvement of Health Professionals and visitors.

There are regular professionals who visit the school and enhance the teaching of Sex and Relationship education, such as Health professionals, Social Services and the Community Police. All visitors will be DBS checked and their materials and methodology quality assured by the subject leaders. This policy will be made available to all visitors who have an interest in Relationship and Sex education.

Working with Parents

This policy is available for all parents to view and they are encouraged to discuss any issues of concern with the PSHE subject leaders. Parents are welcome to view materials or DVDs and there are some materials that parents can loan from the school. Comments from parents are welcome and will be noted to be included in the review of this policy.

Dissemination of the Policy.

All new parents/carers of new pupils to the school will be given a copy of the Relationship and Sex Education policy as part of their information pack. All staff will have a copy of the policy and it is available on the school network.

Procedures for policy monitoring and evaluation.

The PSHE subject leaders, Head teacher and Governors, will monitor the policy. The RSE Curriculum Plan 2020 will be updated as new resources become available. The subject leaders will monitor provision and delivery annually.

The policy will be updated in 3 years in consultation with governors, parents, staff and pupils. Any changes before this time will be presented as an amendment sheet to the policy.

Documentation used in the writing of this policy.

Developing and Reviewing a School Sex Education policy - A Positive Strategy published by the Sex Education Forum (1994, reprinted 1996).

Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (July 2000) 0116/2000

DFE Relationships, Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education - Statutory Guidance for governing bodies, proprietors head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams and teachers (2019)

The school subscribes to the PSHE association and the subject leaders refer to this for regular updates.