



Holbrook Academy

SEX & RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION (SRE) POLICY

Date Approved	Quality and Monitoring Committee	1.7.2013
	Governing Body	10.7.2013
Signed	Jane Gould (Chair of Governors)	
Minuted		
Date of Next Review	Quality and Monitoring Committee	Summer Term 2014
	Governing Body	Summer Term 2014

WHOLE SCHOOL POLICY FOR SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION (SRE)

Policy Consultation & Review

This policy has been authorised by the Governors, is addressed to all members of staff and volunteers and is available to parents on request. It is published on the Academy website referred to in our Holbrook Academy prospectus and is available on request from the Academy Office. We also inform parents and carers about this policy when their children join our academy and through our Academy Newsletter.

This policy takes account of the Academy's public sector equality duty set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It can be made available in large print or other accessible format if required. It applies wherever staff or volunteers are working with pupils even where this is away from the Academy, for example at an activity centre or on an educational visit.

This policy was last reviewed by the Quality and Monitoring Committee on 12/11/2012 and will be tabled to the Full Governing Body for approval on 21/11/2012. It is due for review during the Autumn Term of 2013.

Signature

Headteacher

Date:

Signature

Chair of Governors

Date:

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1. Policy Statement

The DfE, in SRE Guidance 2000, defines SRE as:

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 – this would be inappropriate teaching.

Sex and Relationships Education Guidance, July 2000 DfEE 0116/2000 P5

Effective SRE can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by students if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being.

SRE is a legal requirement. The National Curriculum Science Orders across all Key Stages set out the sex education elements which the academy must provide for all students. This covers the biological aspects of sex education. However, it is widely recognised that sex education should contain more than a solely scientific approach if it is to meet children's needs.

2. Aims of SRE programme

At Holbrook Academy our aim for sex education is:

- 1) to provide students with a sound factual knowledge relating to SRE education;
- 2) to encourage exploration of values and moral issues, consideration of sexuality and personal relationships and the development of communication and decision-making skills; and
- 3) to foster self-esteem, self-awareness, a sense of moral responsibility and the skills to avoid and resist unwanted sexual experience.

The SRE programme at Holbrook Academy reflects the academy ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values:

- Respect for self
- Respect for others
- Responsibility for their own actions
- Responsibility for their family, friends, the academy and wider community.

3. Equal Opportunities Statement

The academy is committed to the provision of SRE to all of its students. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds. Equal time and provision is allocated for all groups but there may be occasions where students with Special Educational Needs are given extra support.

4. Content

In both Key Stages, the National Curriculum Science Orders are delivered by subject specialist teachers during timetabled science lessons. Other aspects of SRE are taught mainly in PSHEE / Citizenship specialist focused timetabled day and lessons on relationships occur in other aspects of the curriculum including English and RE.

Through planned specialist focused timetabled days, as well as through wider academy activities, such as assemblies, children are able to develop their ideas, knowledge and skills gradually and appropriately.

Teachers have the main responsibility for teaching about SRE in the classroom and they plan and liaise with other specialists, including the School Nurse, to ensure our students receive an up to date and balanced programme.

5. Controversial and Sensitive Issues

Staff are aware that views around SRE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all SRE issues are taught without bias. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that students are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect others who may have different opinions.

6. Advice to Individual Students

Teachers do not give individual advice on contraception and other aspects of sexual behaviour. In circumstances where a student is considered at some risk, the teacher would seek advice from the academy's safeguarding team (currently led by Mr T Barrett).

However, so that individual students' needs are met in terms of accurate advice which teachers cannot give, the School Nurse is willing to provide this. Appointments can be arranged through the Pastoral Support Team. The School Nurse also offers a weekly drop in for all students.

Teachers are also able to offer information or guidance to students on how they can access appropriate health/counselling services. The academy's VLE offers a signposting page with information about a range of services and sources of advice, both locally and nationally.

Where a student is considered to be at risk of any type of abuse, the academy follows procedures for safeguarding children as outlined in the academy's Safeguarding Policy.

We provide a broad and balanced sex education programme for all students including those with special educational needs and we ensure full entitlement and access.

7. School Nursing Drop-in Service

Holbrook Academy recognises that some students at certain times of their life will need the confidential support provided by the Nursing Service. This service offers confidential health service to young people in Holbrook High in compliance with You're Welcome quality criteria (DH 2007)

Objectives:

- To provide young people with advice on smoking cessation;
- To offer advice on drug and alcohol problems, obesity, eating disorders and mental health;
- To promote the development of positive relationships;
- To offer sexual health advice including access to pregnancy testing and referral, Chlamydia screening, condom distribution and the issue of emergency hormonal contraception under Patient Group Directions; and
- Referral and signposting to other agencies as required.

The service will:

- Operate on a drop in basis with the provision of some follow up appointments;
- Operate within local and national policy to safeguard children and young people;
- To encourage young people to discuss problems with their parents and, where relevant, the academy whilst respecting their rights to confidentiality;
- Make referrals in the best interests of children and young people; and
- Refer to partner agencies as appropriate.

8. Dealing with Questions

Both formal and informal SRE arising from students' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the student concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly, and can be addressed individually later. The academy believes that individual staff must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the safeguarding team if they are concerned.

9. Sexual Identity and Sexual Orientation

Holbrook Academy believes that SRE should meet the needs of all students, regardless of their developing sexuality, and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation, answer appropriate questions and offer support. Homophobic bullying is dealt with strongly, yet sensitively, and resolved.

10. Informing Parents

The views of parents are central to SRE. Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from all or part of the sex and relationships education provided at the academy except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum. Student planners include information for parents and students regarding SRE as does the academy Prospectus.

Any parent requiring further information should contact the academy office.