



The Cowplain School

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Adopted: Spring 2017

Review date: Spring 2021

Section 1

1.1 Aims of the Policy

It is the aim of The Cowplain School to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of its students, and to prepare them fully for the opportunities, experiences and responsibilities of adult life. To this end, the school offers a full and detailed programme of Sex and Relationships Education which is specifically designed for its students, taking account of their physical, mental and spiritual growth over the five years of school life in order to:

- ensure the acquisition of understanding and attitudes which prepare students to view their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner.
- encourage students to appreciate the value of stable family life, marriage/partnership/cohabitation and the responsibilities of parenthood.
- encourage an appropriate consideration of religious and cultural factors after due consultation with parents.
- promote tolerance and understanding in its students of the right of every individual to a private and personal sexual orientation without fear of prejudice or reprisal.
- provide students with an appreciation of the variety of attitudes, values and sensitivities concerning sexual behaviour from a range of cultural, religious, ethnic and social viewpoints, which should enable students to develop their own attitudes and values in a meaningful and rational way.

This policy recognises the importance of Sex and Relationships Education for the Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) development of students and forms a key element of that policy. It also acknowledges the school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010, in respect of safeguarding and in respect of students with special educational needs (SEN).

1.2 Rationale

The programme has been created in line with the relevant sections of the 1993 Education Act, the Children Act 1989, The Hampshire Sex Education Guidelines, the National Curriculum and the OFSTED regulations. It is influenced by the recommendations of the Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service. Most importantly, the programme forms an

integral part of the PSHCE experience provided by the school, and is set within the whole school curriculum, with due reference paid to the contributions of such areas as Science, Ethics and Philosophy and pastoral support and guidance.

This policy has been written to take account of the DfEE circular 0116/2000 Sex and Relationship Education Guidance, the revised National Curriculum, published in 2013, the need for guidance arising out of the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) framework, the latest DfE PSHE Education Guidance (2013) and the Social Exclusion Unit report on teenage pregnancy.

In KS3 Sex and Relationships education is delivered to mixed ability teaching groups and is taught by a PSHCE teacher. It is created, presented, monitored and evaluated by the Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for pastoral support and guidance and the Head of Lower School. In KS4 it is delivered by the form tutor and again monitored by the Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for pastoral support and guidance, and the Head of Upper School. Work is undertaken in conjunction with respected outside agencies, who contribute to the programme by taking sessions themselves, providing materials which are up to the minute and by acting as a bridge between the school and those outside agencies which provide help, support and advice to students.

Parents are kept fully informed of when a programme takes place for their children, what is the content, and of their rights with regard to the participation of their child or otherwise.

The Cowplain School recognises that investment in health is crucial to enable all students to fulfil their potential. The school believes that effective sex and relationship education is an essential part of health, which will be firmly rooted in the PSHCE programme so that it is not delivered in isolation.

All students have access to Sex and Relationships Education through the PSHCE programme, regardless of their educational needs and learning abilities. The programme is sensitive to ethnicity, social identity, gender and sexual orientation.

Section 2

2.1 Operating the Policy

The Cowplain School will operate this policy by:

- providing students with appropriate biological facts and information
- combating ignorance, increasing understanding and reducing guilt and anxiety to promote responsible behaviour.
- developing the ability to make informed decisions and developing skills to combat exploitation or peer pressure.
- encouraging openness and better communication about sexual matters.
- raising awareness of powerful influences such as the media
- promoting respect for oneself and others
- promoting an understanding of consent
- informing about the implications and risks associated with some behaviours
- confronting any harassment or prejudice to any student at the school brought about by gender or sexual orientation.

2.2 The role of school staff

In lessons students will be advised that, should they have individual concerns, they should approach their PSHCE teacher, form tutor, Pastoral Leader or trusted member of staff

where they will have the opportunity for a discussion in private and without fear of embarrassment. All staff will be aware of their legal commitments as outlined in DfEE Circular 5/94, and will be able to offer information and support, but not personal advice.

2.3 Parents and carers

Personal advice on Sex and Relationships is recognised as the province of parents, carers and relevant Agencies, to whom the student may be directed. Furthermore parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE programme except for the statutory National Curriculum in Science. Parents can discuss their concerns with the Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for pastoral support and guidance. Appropriate alternative arrangements will be made for students withdrawn from the programme.

Section 3

3.1 Confidentiality

All members of staff are also aware that they may not hold a confidence imparted by a student where there might be danger to the student's or to other students' wellbeing. The student concerned will be informed if confidentiality is to be breached and the reasons why. The student will be supported throughout this process. PSHCE teachers and Pastoral Team members are able to offer help in confidence, provided that confidence does not imply child abuse or criminal activity. In all such cases, students will be advised beforehand that what they say will be referred to the school's Designated Safeguarding Team.

3.2 Child Protection

The school has a separate Child Protection Policy. Effective PSHCE may bring about disclosures of child protection issues and staff should be aware of the procedures for reporting their concerns.

3.3 Agencies regularly working in or on behalf of the school:

YServices: Xperience Youth Centre, Trinity Street, Fareham, Hampshire, PO16 7SJ. Abi Facey 079736212451

School nurses are based at Old Gym, Fort Southwick, James Callaghan Drive, PO17 6AR. Direct line 02392 224505.

References

- 1993 Education Act
- The Children Act 1989
- The Hampshire Sex Education Guidelines
- Sex and Relationships Education Guidance (DfES 2000)
- Sex and Relationships Education and Parents (DfES 2001)
- Healthy Schools Scheme
- PSHCE and Citizenship National Framework 2013
- Social Exclusion Unit report on teenage pregnancy.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Policy is reviewed every two years by the Senior Leadership Team and Governors as part of the self evaluation cycle. Appropriate action is taken if changes are required.

Other Relevant Policies

This Policy should be used with reference to the following policies:

Anti-Bullying Policy

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Single Equality Plan and Equalities Objectives

A copy of the School's Sex and Relationships Education Policy will be available on line at www.cowplainschool.co.uk

Date Reviewed and approved:	Spring 2017	Reviewed by:	NBT	Next Review:	Spring 2021
Summary of changes made:	Rewrite				