



REGENT

Independent College

Sex and relationship education policy

Approved by:	Stephen Hurl	Date: 15 th May 2019
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1. Aims

The aims of sex and relationship education (SRE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Alignment with the college ethos of, 'The End of Education is Character'

2. Statutory requirements

At **Regent College** we teach SRE as set out in this policy.

In September 2020 Relationships and Sex Education is to become a requirement for secondary pupils, under the independent school standards, although schools are encouraged to begin teaching from September 2019. This guidance is consistent with that now issued in connection with Sex Education (which is commonly referred to as Sex and Relationship Education or "SRE"). The College has decided to follow the guidance to teach SRE from September 2019

3. Policy development

This policy will be developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review – The Head Teacher will research all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Staff consultation – Teachers who will be delivering SRE will be given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties will be invited to attend a meeting about the policy
4. Pupil consultation – we will investigate what exactly pupils want from their SRE
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared and ratified with Principal and CEO

4. Definition

SRE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

SRE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

SRE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

5. Delivery of SRE

SRE will be taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of SRE are taught within the science curriculum, and assemblies

Students will be supported with developing the following skills:

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions

- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict

These skills are taught within the context of family life.

6. Roles and responsibilities

6.1 Principal

The Principal has delegated the approval of this policy to the Head Teacher.

6.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that SRE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from components of SRE (see section 7).

6.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering SRE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to SRE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from components of SRE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching SRE. Staff who have concerns about teaching SRE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher.

6.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in SRE and, when discussing issues related to SRE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

7. Parents' right to withdraw

Parents' have the right to withdraw their children from non-statutory components of SRE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the headteacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from SRE.

8. Training

Staff will be given appropriate training on the delivery of SRE according to the needs of the teacher(s) delivering as part of our CPD programme

The Head Teacher will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching SRE.

9. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of SRE is monitored by the Head Teacher through:

Review and development of the PHSE scheme of work, curriculum meetings, Lesson observations, learning walks and student feedback.

This policy will be reviewed by the Head Teacher annually.