

2018/2021

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Llanishen High School

This document contains the specific policy and associated information relating to Sex and Relationships Education at Llanishen High School

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SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

SECTION 1 : INTRODUCTION

1.1 Llanishen High School is committed to providing its pupils with a comprehensive and well-planned programme of sex and relationships education (SRE) to help them cope with their physical, emotional, moral and spiritual development and to prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

1.2 Our vision is to be a fully inclusive school serving a diverse community. The programme places great emphasis upon helping our pupils to respect themselves and others, and equipping them with the skills they need to make responsible and informed decisions. The programme takes account of the diverse and cultural backgrounds of members of the school community.

1.3 SRE is about understanding the importance of stable personal relationships marked by respect, love and care; and the building of successful relationships with friendship groups and the wider community. Pupils are taught about the importance of family life and the upbringing of children, of strong and mutually supportive stable relationships and the programme recognises that pupils come from a variety of family backgrounds.

1.4 In delivering SRE care is taken

- to understand the perspectives of pupils from a variety of cultural backgrounds
- to respect the religious or other beliefs of pupils
- to cater for pupils of all abilities
- to address the specific needs of boys and girls in the context of mixed gender classes
- to be sensitive to the perspectives and experiences of pupils who are LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender), seeking gender reassignment or have experienced pregnancy.

1.5 This policy has been prepared in accordance with the Education Act 1996, the Welsh Government Circular 19/2010, and the Welsh Government Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2010-2015, and takes into account the requirements of the Personal and Social Education (PSE) framework for 7-19 year olds.

SECTION 2 : AIMS

2.1 The aims of SRE at Llanishen High School are:

- To help pupils understand their growth and development, the processes of human reproduction and the nature of sexuality and issues relating to gender identity.
- To provide pupils with knowledge and understanding of sexual health issues and information about how to obtain appropriate advice on sexual health.
- To raise awareness about oneself and the needs and failings of others and develop respect for oneself and others.
- To enable pupils to consider the attitudes, values and skills which influence the way they behave.

- To build up pupils' self esteem and confidence and equip them with the appropriate skills to manage their relationships in a morally responsible and healthy manner.

SECTION 3 : ORGANISATION OF SRE

3.1 SRE is taught mainly through Personal and Social Education (PSE) in Key Stage 3 but there are aspects which are addressed across the curriculum and especially in English, RE, Science and PE. KS4 learning outcomes are delivered through RE lessons. In addition, at KS4 pupils complete an individual project as part of their Welsh Baccalaureate studies. Many choose to investigate social issues such as the impact of teenage pregnancy and of abortion. KS5 learning outcomes are delivered through the Welsh Baccalaureate.

3.2 The relevant learning outcomes from the PSE Framework in KS3 are to:

- Be aware of changing relationships in school situations and in the family.
- Understand cultural differences and recognise expressions of prejudice and stereotyping.
- Know about the different methods of contraception and their effectiveness and know how to use safer sex procedures.
- Know the law relating to various aspects of sexual behaviour.
- Know how to resolve conflict and negotiate agreement.
- Be aware of personal strengths and weaknesses.
- Recognise moral issues and dilemmas in life situations.
- Know what are perceived as right and wrong actions and understand the issues involved.

3.3 The relevant learning outcomes from the PSE Framework in KS4 (delivered through RE) are to:

- Know how to form supportive and respectful same sex and opposite sex relationships.
- Know the importance of the parenting role and the features of effective parenthood.
- Recognise and know how to challenge expressions of prejudice and stereotyping.
- Understand the risks involved in sexual behaviour which might allow the transmission of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) including the HIV virus.

3.4 The relevant learning outcomes from the PSE Framework in KS5 (delivered through the Welsh Baccalaureate) are:

- Know how to critically evaluate personal lifestyle choices in the context of physical health and emotional well-being, considering the short and long term consequences of such decisions.
- Understand the potential consequences of sexual activity for themselves and personal relationships.
- Understand the life experiences which enhance or damage self-esteem and explore how best to cope with demands of such situations.
- Understand the role of the State in promoting public health and emotional well-being.

3.5 The school has a KS3 PSE subject leader who plans and monitors PSE provision and ensures continuity and progression, good use of resources and adequate time allocation. The PSE Subject Leader is responsible for drawing up a PSE scheme of work which includes SRE. The PSE lessons are taught by a team of staff in one PSE lesson each fortnight at KS3. The PSE Subject Leader, with support of the link member of the Senior Leadership Team, monitors learning and teaching standards and evaluates the programme.

3.6 There is a statutory right for parents to withdraw their children from sex education provision delivered through PSE at KS3. Parents wishing their child to be withdrawn must contact the Headteacher.

SECTION 4 : SPECIFIC ISSUES

4.1 Contraception

Teaching about contraception is delivered in a class setting and in an interactive manner. The main objective is to reduce the incidence of unwanted pregnancy, and the focus is on providing appropriate information and effective advice on contraception and the benefits of delaying sexual activity. Health professionals are consulted where appropriate. Teachers give information about where pupils can obtain confidential advice and counselling. Signposting to health professionals is included in pupils' PSE booklets.

4.2 Abortion

When abortion issues are discussed in the school, pupils are given the opportunity to explore the dilemmas, appreciate the validity of opposing views, and develop the communication skills to discuss the issue with parents and health professionals. The religious convictions of pupils and their parents are respected.

4.3 Sexual orientation and gender reassignment

Teachers seek to deal with the issues of sexual orientation and gender reassignment honestly and sensitively in a non-discriminatory way. They answer appropriate questions and provide factual information. Pupils are encouraged to respect and recognise diversity and differences in human life.

Guidance in Welsh Government Circulars 47/2006 'Inclusion and Pupil Support' and 23/2003 'Respecting Others' deal with the unacceptability of any emotional distress and harm caused by bullying in whatever form, including bullying about sexual orientation. Any instance occurring in school is dealt with in accordance with the school's anti-bullying policy.

4.4 Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) including HIV and AIDS

The strategies for teaching about STIs including HIV/AIDS include:

- Helping pupils clarify their knowledge of STIs including HIV/AIDS
- Teaching them assertiveness skills for negotiating relationships
- Enabling them to become effective users of services that help to prevent or treat STIs and HIV/AIDS.

The key components are factual information and knowledge about safer sex and STIs, including HIV/AIDS; an understanding of what is risky behaviour and what is not; condom use and safer sex in general; skills to enable pupils to avoid being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex; the diagnosis and treatment of STIs; and access to local sexual health advice services.

SECTION 5 CONFIDENTIALITY

5.1 Important Aspects

- Pupils and parents or carers are made aware of the school's confidentiality procedures within the Child Protection Policy.
- Pupils are informed that teachers cannot offer unconditional confidentiality, particularly in relation to personal disclosures. However, pupils are assured that where information has to be shared this is done in their best interests so as to support and protect them.
- Pupils are encouraged, where possible, to talk to their parents or carers about sexual issues.
- Pupils are informed of sources of confidential help, for example GP or young persons' advice services.
- Ground rules are established in lessons.
- If there is any possibility of abuse, the school's child protection procedures are followed.
- All staff and other adults involved in the life of the school are made aware of the school's child protection policy and procedures.

5.2 Personal disclosures to a member of staff

If a member of staff is approached by a pupil who is sexually active or contemplating sexual activity, the member of staff should:

- Raise any child protection issues with a member of the designated child protection team.
- Encourage the pupil, wherever possible, to talk to their parent or carer.
- Take steps to ensure that the pupil has been adequately counselled and informed about contraception, including precise information about where young people can access contraception and advice services.
- Make it clear to the pupil that, in line with the school policy on child protection, they cannot guarantee confidentiality.

SECTION 6 : EXTERNAL SUPPORT AND WORKING WITH PARENTS

6.1 The school uses the advice, support and resources provided by the LA advisory service, the local Health Promotion Centre and health professionals in the community. Visitors to the school are engaged in accordance with the LA guidelines on the use of outside agents in health education. Such visitors complement the work of the teacher and give specialist input. External input also comes from organisations such as the All-Wales School Liaison Core Programme (Police), school community nurse, Women's Aid and Barnardo's. Pupils are given the addresses and contact numbers of clinics and advice centres in their PSE booklet.

6.2 Staff delivering SRE attend training provided by the Local Authority.

6.3 Parents are encouraged to support the school's sex education programme.

Information related to this policy is supplied to parents in the following ways:

- ▲ in the School Prospectus, on the school website and in other curriculum guidance materials.
- ▲ provision, on request to the PSE Subject Leader, of teaching materials used in sex education lessons.

Section 7 : Related Policies

Child Protection and Procedures
Anti-Bullying
Curriculum

An equality impact assessment has been carried out for this policy and as necessary changes made to mitigate any identified negative differential impact on individuals having one of the protected characteristics contained in the Equality Act 2010.