



Sex and Relationships Education

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1.0 Introduction

The Trust and its colleges will provide SRE for every student. SRE is defined as;

Lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage/civil partnerships for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health.

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/283599/sex_and_relationship_education_guidance.pdf

To embrace the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life, students need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy. Students can also put this knowledge into practice as they develop the capacity to make sound decisions when facing risks, challenges and complex contexts. Everyone faces difficult situations in their lives. These subjects can support young people to develop resilience, to know how and when to ask for help, and to know where to access support.

As a Trust we will ensure the religious background and non-religious backgrounds of all students are taken into account when planning teaching, so that the topics that are included in the core content in this guidance are appropriately handled. We will ensure that these comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010, under which religion or belief are amongst the protected characteristics.

SRE is part of the tutorial programme and topics are covered within this. Student welfare, health and wellbeing are central to the ethos of the trust and its colleges and will fulfil local and national responsibilities as laid out in the following documents.

- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Wakefield Safeguarding Children's Board Procedures
- Children's and Families Act
- Children Act
- Sexual Offences Act
- SRE Guidance
- Information sharing, advice for Practitioners providing safeguarding services to Children, young people, parents and carers.

The Trust and its colleges are committed to preparing its students for adulthood and to ensuring that students go on to live full lives as members of their communities. Feeling valued, understanding what makes a good relationship or friendship, knowing who to talk to (whether verbally and non-verbally, face to face or online) are all crucial to our students in achieving that aim.

2.0 Principles Underpinning SRE

- The Trust and its colleges will promote equality, inclusion, tolerance and acceptance of diversity in SRE which is responsive to the faith, cultural and family backgrounds of students and the local community. SRE will ensure that students appreciate and celebrate diversity and different abilities, gender and sexual orientation of others.
- SRE will promote strong and stable relationships including the promotion of friendships, relationships void of pressure, the importance of mutual and loving relationships, of family life, marriage/civil partnerships and parenthood.
- SRE will provide students with a clear sense of rights and responsibilities in relation to sex and relationships.
- The content of SRE will be age appropriate given the fact that all students who enrol to one of the Trust colleges are 16 years of age or above.
- Raise students' self-esteem and confidence, especially with regard to relationships
- Develop confidence and skills in communicating, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships
- Promote acceptable and appropriate behaviour in private and public situations
- Support access to relevant information and facilities.

3.0 Objectives

- Deliver an innovative and engaging programme which covers any statutory requirements and meets the students' needs in a sensitive way
- Make use of skills of healthcare professionals and external agencies e.g. NHS nurses.
- Generate an atmosphere where students feel comfortable in open discussions and sexual health and relationships.

4.0 How we support our students in Sex and Relationships Education

- Dedicated tutorials covering Sex and Relationship Education. This includes information around staying safe online, what healthy relationships look like and signposting to local support groups for health relationship advice
- RSE ensures students develop understanding of the value of family life, the implication of parenthood and the needs of young children and the importance of equality in relationships
- The Teaching and Learning of RSE enables students to understand difference and respect themselves and others for the purpose of preventing and removing prejudice
- RSE helps young people to mature, to build up their confidence and self-esteem and understand the reasons for the age of consent and sexual activity.
- SRE information available on Moodle for students to access.
- Termly/half termly sexual relationship and health guidance and advice from nurses.
- Sexual health testing for all students in college – half termly
- Enrichment fair with local services in attendance, including sexual health and local LGBTQ+ groups.
- Availability of college counsellors for students to self-refer to.
- Equality and Diversity calendar of events throughout the year, which support SRE.

- LGBTQ+ groups within college to encourage and foster support networks and allow students to meet other students from the LGBTQ+, discuss key concerns and be involved in raising awareness and fundraising
- Students are made aware of local support group within the community which they can access
- Information around keeping safe online is built into tutorials and also available on Moodle
- Promotional activities within student unions to raise awareness of local services
- Updates sent to students on email of local services and how to access these
- College newspaper with SRE related information
- Regular notices through teaching and tutorial timetable

5.0 SRE for Students who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

- The Trust and its colleges recognise that we have a duty to ensure that students with SEND have equal access to SRE lessons to ensure that they are able to understand their physical and emotional development and to enable them to make positive decisions in their lives.
- The Progress Tutor Team will work closely with Study Support with regards to SEND students and the tutorial scheme of work to look closely at what support will need to be put in place when SRE is being delivered.
- If for any reason a SEND student cannot access the SRE tutorial or where they need further support to understand information, concepts and processes we will provide individual support

6.0 Parents/Carers

- The Trust and its colleges are committed to working with parents, carers and families. Parents, carers and families are an important and influential part of the lives of our students. They have a right to want what is best for the person for whom they care and it is best practice to consult and to listen to their views. However, the student's rights are paramount in any educational situation. In practice this means that staff should:
 - Make parents/carers aware of the policy and support them to understand it and its implications.
 - Ensure good communication with parents/carers, including making sure that parent/carer views are heard and that they are treated with respect.
 - Take seriously any issues raised by parents/carers with regard to a student's welfare or safety by undertaking the appropriate risk assessment.
 - Ensure that parents/carers have access to support, training and resources that support them in facilitating discussion about sexual wellbeing and relationships.
 - Support parents/carers should they feel aggrieved by any decision relating to sex and relationships education, including ensuring access to the Complaints Procedure where necessary.

7.0 Confidentiality

Students must be made aware that disclosures to members of staff or external agencies cannot be treated as confidential particularly if the law is contravened or students or other children are at risk of harm.

8.0 Sharing of Information

The welfare of the student is paramount and central to the ethos of the trust and its colleges. Relationships with parents/carers are essential to enable us to provide the right support for students and the role of a parent/carer is to support students in their development, understanding of sexual health and healthy relationships and promote health and consensual relationships. It is essential that DSL contact parents/carers to discuss any concerns about sexual health and relationships, unless a student will be put at risk or harm of significant harm if the parent is contacted.

9.0 Related Policies and Procedures

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SEND Policy
- Behaviour and Attendance Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Single Equality Scheme
- Complaints Policy

10.0 Agencies and Contact Information

- Childline- <https://www.childline.org.uk/> 0800 1111
- NSPCC - www.nspcc.org.uk – 0808 800 5000

Websites for students to access

- www.relate.org.uk
- www.nhs.uk/livewell/sexualhealth
- www.fpa.org.uk
- <https://www.disrespectnobody.co.uk>
- <https://revengepornhelpline.org.uk/>
- <http://www.respectnotfear.co.uk/>

Policy Status

Policy Lead (Title)	Assistant Principal: Achievement and Support	Review Period	Every 3 years
Reviewed By	Trust Executive Team/ Board of Directors	Equality Impact Assessment Completed (Y/N)	Y

POLICY AMENDMENTS

Version	Approval Date	Page No./Paragraph No.	Amendment	Audience	How Communicated
	6 July 2017				
	15.09.2020 TET	P3 4.0	How we support our students in Sex and Relationships Education section added	Students	Moodle Website
	12.10.2020 BoD				