

CRYPT SCHOOL POLICY ON SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION SEPTEMBER 2002: draft

Review Date: June 2003

Provision of SRE is regulated by the 1996 Education Act (S.352, 356 - 373, 405)

Description of School

There are 706 pupils on roll. This is a boy's grammar school with girls welcomed in the Sixth Form.

Policy Formulation and Consultation Process

In 1998, the original policy was developed and drafted by Mr. N. Mclearie and a working party, with the support of Brenda Moody, Health Promotions. Jane Yiend was then appointed i/c PSHE and the policy and learning programme was aired at a meeting of governors and parents - it received overwhelming support. Staff accepted the policy at a meeting on 21 May 1998. The programme has been reviewed and updated and is part of the School's PSHE and Citizenship curriculum. Parents have been consulted regularly. The National Healthy School Standard will provide a framework for delivering SRE, Jane Yiend is in the process of fulfilling the SRE audit and regularly attends county training. This policy has been discussed by a working party before being proposed to staff parents and governors.

Aims

- To enable all pupils, regardless of ability, gender, race, religious belief or social grouping to have access to information, advice and support in all matters associated with their own and others health, increasing maturity and growing awareness of their own sexuality.
- To foster recognition of the fact that sex and relationships education is a crucial part of preparing children for their lives now and in the future as adults and parents. Also, to acknowledge that this preparation should be a shared activity between school and home.
- To emphasise the significance of a committed stable relationship as the most secure context in which sexuality finds its expression.
- To affirm that effective SRE does not encourage early sexual experimentation

Objectives

To enable pupils to:

Learn the importance of valued and individual conscience and moral considerations

Learn the value of family life marriage and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children

Learn the value of respect love and care

Explore, consider, and understand moral dilemmas

Develop critical thinking as part of decision making

Recognise the equal responsibility of boys and girls

Learn to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively

Develop self-respect and empathy for others

Learn to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice

Develop an appreciation of the consequences of choices made

Manage conflict

Learn how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

Learn and understand physical development at appropriate stages

Understand human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships

Learn about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services

Learn the reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits to be gained from such a delay

Avoid unplanned pregnancy

Understand the law in relation to sexual behaviour.

The SRE Programme

The Science department and the PSHE Co-ordinator work closely together to ensure that pupils receive the knowledge and understanding they require. The programme is designed to enhance the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of pupils. The pupils consider the management of relationships and the consequences of behaviour. More detail is available from Jane Yiend, the Co-ordinator but in outline;

Year 7 - puberty and conception

Year 8 –contraception

Year 9 - sexual relationships and sexually transmitted infections, HIV & AIDS

From Year 10 onwards. These topics are revisited, discussed, and developed.

Organisation of SRE

Jane Yiend, the PSHE and Citizenship Co-ordinator is responsible for the planning and delivery of SRE.

Tutors with the support of the Co-ordinator and Year Heads deliver this. No tutor will be required to cover sensitive issues. Jane Yiend ensures staff are trained and have the necessary resources. The School Nurse, Sue Reynolds, is an invaluable member of the team, as is the School Counsellor. Other outside agencies include Infobuzz, the Schools Involvement Unit, The Gay and Lesbian Helpline. Health Promotions offer training and resources, especially for people working with boys and young men. It is hoped some of these providers will be available on the INSET day designated for PSHE and Citizenship, October 11th 2002 when this policy will be proposed to staff and governors.

Specific Issues

Advice and information: sexual relationships involving children under 16 are a criminal offence. *The general rule must be that giving an individual pupil advice on such matters without parental knowledge or consent would be an inappropriate exercise of teachers' professional responsibilities. The whole school needs to understand this issue of confidentiality.* If a teacher is approached by an individual pupil for specific advice on contraception or other sexual matters DfEE Guidance states 'Schools ought to be in a position to ensure that the child has been adequately counselled and informed about contraception, including precise information about where young people can access contraception and advice services.' The teacher should:

1. Encourage the pupil to seek advice where appropriate from parents or specialist agencies.
2. Make the pupil aware of any implications of their conduct (if the conduct is unlawful or likely to place them at risk) and encourage the pupil to seek advice as above.
3. In the case of 2 above, the teacher should inform the Headteacher who should take the most appropriate action.

Confidentiality: The private comments and observations of a pupil will remain confidential to a member of staff unless breaches of the law are suspected. Such incidents can be handled through the established PSHE rules. Distancing techniques preserve the confidentiality of staff and pupils.

Child sexual abuse: the school follows county guidelines.

Child withdrawal procedure: where parents wish to withdraw a child from sex education (with the exception of the National Curriculum Science) they should contact the form teacher in writing. Miss Yiend is always available for consultation. The DfEE offers a standard pack of information for parents who withdraw their children.

Sexual harassment? Is this covered in the behaviour policy?

Unplanned pregnancy: 'Pupil Inclusion' already makes clear that pregnancy is not a reason for exclusion from School.

Outside agencies: are bound by their own professional codes of conduct to maintain confidentiality. They will be made aware of the School's policy.

Dissemination of the policy: the working party thought it would be a good idea for every parent to be given a copy of the policy and for regular précis in newsletters.

Monitoring and evaluation: the PSHE programme is reviewed annually by the co-ordinator through feedback from staff and students. Probably 3 yearly parents evenings. Annually through reports. Through consultation with School and Governors.

Roles of Headteacher and Governing Body: the Head is the Child Protection Officer and governors are ultimately responsible for this policy.

Other related policies:

Child Abuse

Primary School Transfers

Bullying - *should include something about homophobic bullying*

Complaints

Staff Training