

Clifton Hill School

Document	Relationships and Sex Education Policy
Content	Information about how RSE is taught at Clifton Hill
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Setting

Clifton Hill is a Surrey County Council funded community school for students aged 11-19 years who have severe or profound multiple learning difficulties, autistic spectrum disorder, challenging behavior and complex health needs. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Definition of Relationship and Sex Education The Department of Education defines Sex and Relationship Education as 'lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.' (DfES, 2000: 5)

Guidance from Babcock/ Surrey Healthy Schools RSE states 'RSE should contribute to promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at school and of society and preparing pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life – thus supporting the 1988 Education Reform Act. Further to this, RSE should promote the Equality Act 2010; this replaces previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act and covers age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.' (RSE Guidance 2016)

In relation to SEND pupils the DfE advises 'RSE must support all pupils within a school and the needs of all pupils should be considered. RSE should help all pupils understand their physical and emotional development and enable them to make positive decisions in their lives. Some pupils will be more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation and others may be confused about what is acceptable public behaviour – all pupils need help to develop skills to reduce the risks of abuse and exploitation and assist them to understand the types of behaviours that are acceptable.' (DfE 2000)

Aims and outcomes of RSE in the curriculum:

The overall aim of RSE is to foster a positive notion of lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development, including how to look after physical and

mental health. It aims to support the development of self-respect and empathy for others and promotes the development of skills and understanding necessary to manage conflict peaceably and learn how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

Education for personal relationships and sexual health is essential for the well being of young people. It resides within the whole Clifton Hill School provision which:

- Acknowledges that young people have a right to be sexual beings.
- Acknowledges the sensitivity of this area of development.
- Gives accurate and relevant information.
- Better understand the nature of human relationships
- Enables pupils to learn about relationships, the importance of communication and assertiveness skills including the importance of values such as respect (for self and others), equality, responsibility, care and compassion.
- Reflect upon the importance of stable and loving relationships for family life
- consider and understand the changes that occur to their bodies, minds and emotions as a consequence of growth from childhood to adulthood
- Enables young people to make informed choices.
- Enables pupils to understand the consequences of their actions and encourages personal responsibility in relationships.

Morals, values, equalities and safeguarding

The RSE programme at the Clifton Hill reflects our ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values:

- Enables pupils to develop a personal moral code and respect for others beliefs and values.
- Promotes respect of differing perspectives in a culturally diverse society.
- Promotes equality of opportunity, ensuring access for all groups, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, sexuality or disability.
- Makes explicit the partnership with the community and, in particular, with parents and carers.
- Acknowledges the right to privacy and dignity, which is fundamental to young people maturing sexually.
- Educate pupils to be safe.
- Educates pupils about their legal rights and responsibilities

Further to this RSE will support the school's duty to promote the development of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness in line with the 2010 Equality Act and the school's safeguarding and child protection protocols. The school is committed to the provision of RSE to all of its pupils. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family background.

Content of the school RSE programme

The following is the content of the Clifton Hill's RSE programme. The content is sequenced to show some idea of progression but in reality this would be adapted and personalised to meet the pupils needs.

Whole School

- To be able to communicate likes and dislikes- preferences
- To develop body awareness

- To understand and communicate feelings
- To understand the importance respecting other's feelings and personal space
- To show an awareness of public and private places and body parts
- To understand and communicate 'yes' and 'no' (consent)
- To understand a range of relationships and link them to their lives

Secondary

- To understand changes in their bodies and feelings
- To understand the importance respect
- To understand the importance of consent
- To understand and define a broad range of relationships and link them to their lives (family, friends, people who work with them, acquaintances, strangers, girlfriend, boyfriend)
- To understand and know the signs of a healthy and unhealthy (abusive) relationship and how to get help
- To understand the difference (and purpose) between images from the media and real life
- To understand what are appropriate images, what you can ask for, give and share linked to online safety Subject to parental consent some pupils will learn about the following and all areas are taught with a focus on safety:
- To learn about sexual intercourse (consent, touch, orientation, relationships)
- To learn about contraception
- To learn about pregnancy
- To learn about sexually transmitted infections (STI)

How Relationship and Sex Education is Organised in the Curriculum

Throughout the school these elements of RSE and science will be taught by the class teacher, support staff, and at times with the school nurse. The subject is taught to a whole class group, small groups or 1:1. RSE is taught as a discrete subject and is embedded in the whole school day as well as additional inputs through assemblies and school themed activities. It is also integrated within cross-curricular topics. The content and duration of what is taught during RSE sessions is based on a combination of needs such as the class needs, planned scheme of work and required curriculum coverage. Sometimes it is driven by individual pupil learning needs and is then decided on in collaboration with parents/ carers and other health professionals.

Parental involvement

The school is committed to working with parents and believes that it is important to have the support of parents and the wider community for the PSHE and RSE programme. Parents are/will be provided with the opportunity to find out about and discuss the school's programme.

To promote effective communication and discussion between parents and their children we notify parents through information evenings, termly curriculum maps and the school website about when particular aspects of RSE will be taught. We also encourage an open door policy to help ensure that parents can discuss issues with the school staff in a positive, sensitive and proactive manner.

Parental rights to withdraw their children

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all, or part of the RSE curriculum, except for those parts included within the National Curriculum. Effective

methods to communicate the school approach to RSE, including the parental right to withdraw their child, are through the school website, prospectus, curriculum/information evenings and the RSE policy.

Parents are also informed that the RSE curriculum is an essential vehicle in supporting a school's statutory duty to:

- safeguard and promote the welfare of their children,
- advance the 2010 Equality Act,
- encourage the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils,
- foster British values, and
- prepare children and young people for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life,
- along with the coverage of the National Curriculum for Science.

How the relationships and sex education programme is monitored, evaluated, and assessed

We ensure that all pupils have equal access to the RSE programme through a thorough process of monitoring, evaluation and assessment, which takes into consideration pupils' needs, maturity, age, ability and personal circumstances.

Links to other policies and advice

This RSE Policy is supported by, but not limited to:

PSHE Policy

Behaviour Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy

School Visits

Confidentiality Policy

Equality Policy

Intimate Care Policy

Sex and Relationship Education Guidance – DfES

Review of this policy

This policy is reviewed at least every 2 years and also in the light of any related issue that may occur such as any new findings arising from educational research, local or national guidance.