



## **New Forest Small School**

### **SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY**

Member of Staff Responsible	Headteacher
Regularity of Review	Every 2 years

#### **Rationale**

The school believes that knowledge and understanding of human sexuality and relationships is of great importance and a basic requirement for student development towards maturity and adulthood. The school believes that such knowledge and understanding should be acquired within the context of the PSHE framework (personal, social and health education) in which the value of family life, the responsibilities of parenthood, the value of personal well-being and respect for others are given full emphasis.

#### **Procedure and Practice**

- Sex and Relationships Education shall be available to every student throughout their time at school, in a form appropriate to the student age and level of maturity
- Sex and Relationships Education should be delivered to student in appropriate groupings
- The curriculum should be co-ordinated to ensure a balanced, sensitive and progressive programme of Sex and Relationships Education
- The Sex and Relationships Education curriculum should make full use of resource materials, visual presentation, literature and outside speakers. On occasions when an outside speaker is used, a member of the teaching staff should be present throughout the lesson to ensure that contributions are consistent with the school policy
- The main vehicles for the teaching of Sex and Relationships Education will be the PSHE classes, supported by other areas of the curriculum as appropriate, in particular Science (for factual biological aspects of sexual function), and Psychology
- Lessons will encompass sexual function and behaviour as one of several equally important aspects of individual development such as self-awareness, personal hygiene and health, confidence & satisfaction & consent
- Sex and Relationships Education provides factual information together with the emotional aspects of sexual health, in order to prepare students for their adult life. In particular the Sex and Relationships Education curriculum will include:
  - Learning the importance of consent
  - Learning the value of respect, love and care
  - Exploring, considering and understanding all kinds of relationships & sexual behaviours
  - Challenging myths, misconceptions, and false assumptions about normal behaviour

#### **Personal and Social Skills**

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively

- Developing self-respect and empathy for others
- Learning to make choices with an absence of prejudice
- Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- Managing conflict
- Introducing students to the skills required to be able to avoid inappropriate pressures or advances

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

- Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
- Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- Learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services
- Learning the value of delaying sexual activity and the benefits to be gained from such delay
- The avoidance of unplanned pregnancy

This is part of the school's statutory delivery of PSHE and will be delivered through the following subjects: Psychology, Science sessions and occasional outside speakers.

- The rights and responsibilities of parents in relation to Sex and Relationships Education should be acknowledged. Parents who have concerns about all or part of the Sex and Relationships Education programme are requested to notify the Headteacher in writing. When appropriate, arrangements should be made for parents to view teaching and learning materials and be given the opportunity to discuss the school's approach. Copies of the school policy should be available to parents on request.
- In their pastoral role, teachers will be concerned with the safety and wellbeing of students in their care. When offering guidance to individual students care must be taken to recognise the responsibilities of parents. If approached by an individual student for specific advice on sexual matters, staff should encourage the students to consult parents or a health professional. School staff will not seek out emergency contraception for our students. Where a student confides in a member of staff no guarantee of confidentiality may be offered and the teacher concerned must consult the school's Child Protection Officer (CPLO). If a student appears to be at moral or physical risk, staff should refer the matter to the CPLO who will liaise/make contact with parents/carers, or other professional services as appropriate.

### **Monitoring**

This policy and programme will be monitored regularly and reviewed annually by the PSHE co-ordinator.