

Oak Lodge School

Sex and Relationships Policy

Statutory

At Oak Lodge, all pupils aged 10 -19 receive SRE (*Sex and Relationships Education*). SRE is taught through the PSHCEE curriculum, in Science and covered in the residential via the AQA modules. The PSHCEE teacher delivers the SRE programme of study and is an accredited teacher in PSHCEE and SRE.

SRE is not about the promotion or encouragement of sexual orientation or sexual activity. The aim of SRE is to teach the pupils moral, physical and emotional development. Incorporated into SRE teaching is the understanding of different relationships and different meanings of the word love. Pupils learn about appropriate touching within different relationships and link this to the different meanings of love. Also taught in SRE is the understanding of puberty, conception, pregnancy, sexuality and sexual health including HIV and Aids.

The explicit teaching of SRE is invaluable especially for our pupils whose access to language and communication is limited and for some, who do not receive much information from home. Many children are exposed to misconceptions from media representation, leaving the pupils with incorrect information which can be confusing and frightening. It is therefore vital that our teaching of SRE makes the pupils aware that they are misconceptions and teaches them the correct information.

When delivering SRE, it is essential that the pupils are taught how to make informed decisions about their lives. Pupils are encouraged to respect themselves and others, and to develop with confidence from childhood through adolescence and into adulthood.

SRE is taught in a safe and open environment where the pupils are encouraged and feel comfortable to ask questions. For more confidential concerns all pupils are aware of whom they can talk to. If a pupil makes a disclosure concerning inappropriate sexual behaviour, at home or at school, this will be referred to the designated teacher with responsibility for child protection.

During the teaching of SRE we do, as required by law, teach Puberty and Menstruation. These are taught to Years 7 and 8. Years 9, 10 and 11 and 6th form progress to learn about Pregnancy options including, Abortion and Contraception, Safer Sex and Sexual Health, the teaching of STIs (*Sexually Transmitted Infections*) including HIV and AIDS and Healthy Relationships, including the understanding of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Exploitation.

Pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding of SRE are assessed throughout the topic and at the end via a self assessment. SRE is monitored through formative and summative assessments, which include self, peer and teacher assessments through written and drawn work, quizzes, and creative work, e.g. role-playing a counsellor giving advice to a pregnant girl or her boyfriend.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from SRE if they wish. All parents are aware of this and have been informed through meetings and through the home school agreement.

Reviewed: Every 3 years

Approved by the Governors: October 2015

Next review date: 2018