

West Monmouth School

Ysgol Gorllewin Mynwy



Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Polisi Rhyw a Pherthnasoedd

Date Approved by Governors:

Date Reviewed by Governors:

West Monmouth School Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Introduction and rationale

The objective of sex and relationships education (SRE) in West Monmouth School is to help and support pupils through their physical, emotional, moral and spiritual development. Effective SRE is also essential if young people are to make responsible and informed decisions about their lives. A successful programme will help pupils learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. It should prepare them to develop considered attitudes, values and skills, which influence the way they behave and the choices they make.

The Education Act 1996 states that the Governing Body and Head teacher shall take such steps, as are reasonably practicable, to secure that where sex education is given to any registered pupils at a maintained school, it is given in such a manner as to encourage those pupils to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life. The Education Act 2002 further strengthens schools' duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people.

Sex education is a statutory part of the basic curriculum for all secondary school aged learners registered at a maintained school and it is the responsibility of schools to plan and deliver broad, balanced PSHE provision (including SRE) to meet the specific needs of all learners. The theme of Health and Emotional Well-being within the PSHE framework provides the context for exploring many aspects of sex and relationships education and the importance of responsible, appropriate and healthy personal relationships.

Schools should also make, and keep up to date, a separate written statement of their policy with regard to the provision of sex education, and make copies of the statement available for inspection (at all reasonable times) by parents of registered pupils at the school and provide a copy of the statement free of charge to any such parent who asks for one.

SRE is about understanding the importance of stable and loving personal relationships, respect, care, and the building of successful relationships with friendship groups and the wider community. Where SRE is provided, pupils should be taught about the nature and significance of marriage and its importance for family life and bringing up of children. Nevertheless, the Welsh Government recognises that there are strong and mutually supportive relationships outside of marriage. We live in a diverse society and pupils come from a variety of family backgrounds. Teachers should take care to approach all pupils with sensitivity and respect and ensure that there is no stigmatisation of pupils based on their home circumstances.

(Sex and Relationships Education in Schools, Circular 019/2010, WAG 2010)

West Monmouth School actively participates in the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Scheme (WNHSS). The WNHSS National Quality Award provides schools with a framework for the development of personal development and relationships. The Sexual Health and Wellbeing action plan for Wales 2010 - 2015 highlights the importance of school based SRE and the role that it plays in a child's sexual health development and behaviour.

Links with other whole school policies

This SRE policy has clear links with other school policies including:

- Anti-bullying policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Equal opportunities policy
- Substance Misuse Education and Incident Policy

This SRE policy also links to schemes of learning and activities in subjects across the school curriculum, these include:

- PSHE
- Science
- RE
- Specific SRE provided to gypsy traveller pupils, delivered through the EQUAL project

Management and Organisation of SRE

It is the Head teacher's and Governing Body's responsibility to ensure that the SRE policy is up to date, monitored, consulted upon, effectively implemented and is widely disseminated throughout the whole school community.

The teacher in charge of PSHE is also responsible for identifying any training needs of staff, resources, and keeping up to date with developments in the subject area by attending appropriate INSET training.

Aims of SRE

At West Monmouth School we aim to develop age appropriate SRE in the context of a broad and balanced curriculum that is integral to the WG PSE framework for 7- 19 year olds. The school aims to achieve the following outcomes for all pupils.

At the end of secondary school pupils should:

- understand the importance of stable, secure and loving relationships;
- develop a responsible attitude to sexual relationships;
- understand the laws relating to sexual behaviour;
- acknowledge the consequences and risks of sexual activity, including unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs);
- understand the links with other risk-taking behaviours, including the potential risks of online social networking;
- recognise cultural and social influences and resist unwanted pressure;
- negotiate their emerging sexual identity with confidence
- know about the methods and availability of contraception and the prevention of sexually transmitted infections;
- understand the responsibilities of parents and
- know how to get consistent, appropriate information on sexual health and well-being from a range of agencies.

Delivery of SRE

The SRE programme is taught by class teachers in mixed gender groups (wherever possible) through PSHE lessons at both KS3 (including through the Explore curriculum in Year 7) and KS4. Involvement of external agencies such as the school nursing team helps to enrich the delivery of SRE but does not replace SRE within the taught curriculum. Outside agencies are made aware of their role within the delivery of SRE.

SRE is not taught as a discrete subject and is covered in a number of subject areas (including Science and RE) as well as PSHE. PSHE is delivered by classroom teachers in both KS3 and KS4. All PSHE teachers are supported by the Teacher in charge of PSHE. Outside agencies, including the School Health Nurse, Hafan Cymru and the School Liaison Officer from South Wales Police are used to deliver specialist workshops for pupils, covering topics including:

- Puberty and changing ideas about relationships
- STIs
- Contraception
- Healthy relationships

- Sexting
- Sex and relationships issues involving social media
- Abusive relationships
- On-line relationships
- Sexual exploitation and grooming
- Consent – including the legal age of consent

These are always delivered under the supervision of the relevant PSHE teacher.

SRE Programme

At Key Stage 3 the SRE programme will provide learners with the opportunity to understand the importance of keeping the mind and body safe and healthy along with the features of relationships including marriage and family life. Learners will also be provided with opportunities through the context of relationships to learn about contraception, STIs and HIV. National Curriculum Science also offers pupils the opportunity to study the basic structure and function of cells, tissues, organs and organ systems and how they support vital life processes.

At Key Stage 4 the SRE programme will provide learners with the opportunity to accept personal responsibility of keeping the mind and body safe and healthy along with developing a responsible attitude towards personal relationships. Learners will also be provided with opportunities to learn about the importance of sexual health and the risks involved in sexual activity including potential sexual exploitation and the range of sexual attitudes, relationships and behaviours' in society.

Teaching Sensitive Issues

Some aspects of the SRE programme will be sensitive to pupils and adults and we will endeavour to lessen any concerns through our well-planned programme; with access to balanced factual information. Each class will establish clear ground rules to create a balance between pupils feeling respected and safe, and protecting individual privacy. The personal beliefs and attitudes of teachers will not influence the teaching of SRE and both pupils and teachers will avoid sharing personal information.

Working with Parents/Carers

As a school we recognise the importance of collaboration between school and home and are aware that the teaching of some aspects of SRE might concern some parents and carers. Therefore, parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE programme and alternative provision will be made available. However, there is no right of withdrawal from any National Curriculum (science) provision.

We at West Monmouth School would always wish to discuss any worries or concerns that parents/carers may have, and would encourage them to talk to the teacher in charge of PSHE or the PSHE line manager. In order to provide comprehensive information to parents/carers, the SRE policy is available on the school website and is also available as a printed copy on request. Furthermore, the teacher in charge of PSHE is available to meet with parents/carers and explain provision as required.

The following information is also provided to parents/carers as part of the school prospectus (also available electronically on the school website):

The school's Sex Education Policy aims to provide each pupil with a graduated and continuous cross curricular programme of study in sex education which is based on normal considerations and the value of family life.

We teach both the physiological and psychological aspects of sexual development and address the issues of gender, on a personal and social level, within the delivery of the pastoral curriculum.

The school documents relating to sex education policy are available, on request, for parents to peruse at their leisure. Parents may arrange to withdraw their child from lessons if they so wish.

Should parents/carers desire to withdraw their child from SRE all requests must be made in writing to the Chair of Governors at the school.

Safeguarding and Confidentiality

Teachers cannot offer pupils unconditional confidentiality. If a pupil discloses information to a teacher / member of school staff / visitor to a SRE lesson, the following confidentiality policy will be followed:

- Remind pupils that they cannot offer unconditional confidentiality;
- Inform pupils first if staff are going to break confidentiality;
- Encourage pupils to talk about any worries and concerns they have with parents/carers;

If the disclosure of information causes a child protection concern, e.g. if we have reason to believe a pupil is at risk, all members of staff follow the whole school safeguarding procedures (more details about this are available in the Safeguarding Policy).

Monitoring and evaluation

SRE and the PSHE curriculum will be monitored and evaluated according to school policy. Scrutiny of pupils' work and lesson observations will help to clarify needs such as resources, staff training, and the delivery of SRE through age-appropriate learning strategies. The teacher in charge of PSHE, in partnership with teaching staff, will also identify training needs for relevant staff and organise dissemination of best practice.

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed every two years, when the learning outcomes achieved can be properly evaluated. The effectiveness of the policy will be reported to the Governing Body as part of the review process.

Persons Responsible: _____

Date policy agreed: _____ Date of review: _____

Checklist: The role of visitors in PSE

This checklist is for use by West Monmouth staff and visiting agencies to help with the joint planning of SRE sessions as part of PSHE lessons.

Planning points	
The school and the visitor have agreed the aims, content and approach of inputs by the visitor.	
The school has	
checked that the work of the agency or visitor is known to them and considered appropriate in respect of safeguarding /child protection procedures.	
made the visitor aware of and familiar with any relevant school policies.	
planned for the visitor to be supervised/actively supported by a teacher at all times throughout the visit .	
explained how the visit fits into the PSE programme e.g. any preparatory work/follow up work to be done.	
provided information on:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the number of sessions expected 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the age of the learners in each session 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the number of learners in each session(s) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any additional learning needs of learners 	
The following have been agreed:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the date and time of the visit 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the speaker will be met, at what time and by who 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the name of the class teacher(s) who will be present at the session(s) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the session(s) will take place 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the number of sessions, timings and durations for each 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relevant school timings e.g. registration, assembly, breaks, lunch etc. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what school resources are required by the speaker 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where resources can be accessed. e.g. video, TV, DVD player 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what resources the speaker will provide 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for collecting feedback from the session(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from learners • from teaching staff 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for jointly evaluating the session(s) 	
Signed	School:
	Visitor:
Date:	

(DCELLS 2008)