

Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Type: Document
Status: Statutory

Issue Status:-

Date	Version	Comment	Owner
11 th June 2014	1	Original document	
26 th June 2017	2	Review	V. Giaquinto

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Verified: Vice Principal 3rd July 2017

Approved: Principal 12th July 2017

Available publicly on Website: Y/N

Review Date: July 2018

Sex and Relationship Education Policy, Thomas Deacon Academy

1. Definition of Sex and Relationship Education

1.1. Sex and relationship education (SRE) is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health.

1.2. It should equip young people with the information, skills and values to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships and to take responsibility for their sexual health.

2. Aim

2.1 Sex and Relationship Education is provided through our PD (Personal Development) curriculum which is designed to provide opportunities for pupils/students to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to lead confident, safe, healthy, independent lives and become active and informed citizens. Sex and Relationships Education at Thomas Deacon Academy is a graduated, age appropriate programme covering topics such as:

- Physical and emotional changes at puberty
- Looking after your body – keeping healthy during puberty
- Respect and responsibility
- Relationships – including marriage and parenthood
- The difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Assessing risk
- Resisting pressure
- Prejudice and discrimination linked to sexual identity and orientation
- Body image and feeling good
- Influence of the media
- Accessing help and advice
- Sex and the law
- STIs, including HIV, and high-risk behaviours
- The links between sexual behaviour and alcohol
- Conception and contraception

3. Monitoring and Evaluation

3.1 Teacher and pupil/student voice activities are used each year to assess the effectiveness of the PD programme and changes made where necessary. All topics include an aspect of assessment and this is reported on as part of the Academies Checkpoint reporting cycle. Checkpoint data, learning walks, lesson evaluation and work scrutiny are all used to monitor and evaluate the provision of sex and relationship education.

4. Parental right to withdrawal

4.1 Section 405 of the Education Act 1996 enables parents/carers to withdraw their children from sex education other than the sex education that is in the National Curriculum (such as the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction that are essential elements of National Curriculum Science). If parents/carers wish to withdraw their child from this aspect of education, they should arrange to meet with their child's Head of House or Junior Leader in the first instance.

4.2 The Department for Education offers a standard pack of information for parents/carers to teach their children at home if they choose to withdraw them from sex and relationship education.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sex-and-relationship-education>

5. Policy Review

5.1 The sex and relationship policy is reviewed on a yearly basis.