



Federation of Cherry Oak School, Victoria School & Victoria College

Sex & Relationship Education Policy

This policy relates to Cherry Oak School and Victoria School only

Background

This policy was developed in response to Sex and Relationship Education Guidance DfES 2000 and National Healthy Schools Programme. The policy is closely linked to both school's PSHE and Citizenship policy.

This policy covers both Victoria School and Cherry Oak School. Victoria School is a special day school for pupils aged 2 to 19 years with cognition and learning needs including complex physical and health needs. Cherry Oak is a special day school for pupils aged 4 to 11 years with cognition and learning needs including Autism, severe learning difficulties and speech, communication and language difficulties.

Both schools are part of a hard Federation along with Victoria College which gives us many opportunities for collaborative work and the sharing of good practice in the area of Sex & Relationship Education.

Definition of SRE

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care, for family life. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

Responsibilities for SRE

Responsibility for SRE lies with each school's PSHE and Citizenship Coordinator. Key Stage Managers and Middle Leaders have an overview of the delivery of SRE and any emerging issues within their Key Stage.

The aims of SRE

The aims of SRE at Cherry Oak and Victoria Specialist Arts College are for students to -

- Develop an understanding themselves and their bodies.
- Develop an understanding of self in relation to others.
- Develop skills to guide their actions and behaviours.
- Develop skills to keep themselves safe and make safe choices.
- Develop skills to help them to enjoy their lives safely and happily.

These aims are consistent with the values and ethos of the schools as a whole.

Sex and Relationships Education at both Schools will: -

- a) Take account of the pupil's knowledge and experience, pupils will be given as much knowledge as they are able to understand, it will not be appropriate for all pupils to receive sex education. They be taught at a level appropriate to their developmental age and physical maturity.
- b) Be one progressive element of the Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum. It will be taught in the context of a responsible, loving relationship. Human development and reproduction will be taught as specified in the National Curriculum Science Orders. Some sessions may be taught in single gender groups.
- c) Consider children's questions with sensitivity in the context of their knowledge and of the individual children and their families with due regard towards the cultural and religious backgrounds of pupils.
- d) Give clear, unambiguous and factual information. Staff will not offer advice, when approached by an individual pupil for specific advice the pupil will be referred onto parents, health professionals, health co-ordinator or Executive Head Teacher as appropriate.

Parents & governors

The governing body recognises the rights of parents to withdraw their children from the non-statutory Sex and Relationships programme that forms part of the PSHE curriculum.

This policy was developed in consultation with parents and is kept under review by the school governors. The governor responsible for SRE across both schools is Anne Barnes.

Individual needs

SRE provision is inclusive of all pupils and is consistent with differentiation across the school. Some of our students will show little awareness of their sexuality but for all students, any teaching about relationships will be appropriate to their level of understanding.

Delivery

Delivery of SRE sessions is by class teachers within the key stage. For some sessions teachers and support staff within a key stage will change groups in order to deliver gender-specific sessions. Teachers use up to date resources and information from specialised courses which is shared via each school's shared drive.

Progression of content

Sex and Relationships Education is the multi layered acquisition of skills, knowledge and understanding of ourselves, our bodies and our relationships. It is taught throughout the key stages as part of P.S.H.E. and Citizenship Education using content and materials that consider the developmental and chronological age of the pupils. Threaded through the relevant curriculum will be the social aspects of sexuality, concepts of privacy in terms of body, places and behaviour, touching and personal space and social rules relating to sexuality.

When appropriate some students will follow a structured programme to increase their understanding of aspects of puberty, health and sexual relationships.

Primary - in our primary settings we focus on helping our pupils develop good relationships and respect the differences between people. We also aim to prepare pupils for any physical and emotional changes during puberty, which some will begin to experience before they reach secondary age. This may mean that some pupils participate in KS3 SRE sessions whilst still in KS2 so that they have an appropriate peer group to share experiences with.

Secondary - at Victoria School we aim to inform our secondary aged pupils on relationships, sexuality, the influence of various media on their understanding of healthy sexual relationships, dealing with emotions



and staying safe. During secondary education, pupils with an appropriate level of understanding follow a course that focuses more specifically on relationships, sexuality and procreation. The programme includes information about AIDS, HIV and STDs as required under the Learning and Skills Act (2000).

Key Stage	Main Focus Areas of SRE
EYs/KS1 (Victoria & Cherry Oak)	Building Positive Relationships
KS2 (Victoria & Cherry Oak)	Developing Relationships With Others, Respecting Differences
KS3 (Victoria)	Keeping Safe, Understanding Relationships, Public/Private Behaviours, Puberty
14-19 (Victoria)	Keeping Safe, Puberty, Sexual Health, Sexuality, Boundaries, Consent

SRE and other curriculum areas

Both schools have a programme for P.S.H.E and Citizenship which includes Sex and Relationships Education. SRE is taught as part of the school's curriculum in addition to the statutory elements regarding human reproduction included in the Science National Curriculum.

Monitoring and review

The policy will be monitored and evaluated by:

PSHE & Citizenship Co-coordinator
Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Governors.
LA Advisors & Inspectors.

Date accepted by Governors:

Committee: F&S

Signed: *[Signature]* 12/7/17 VICE CHAIR

Reviewed: June 2017

Date for Review: June 2018