

TADCASTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL



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Tadcaster
Grammar School

Toulston, Tadcaster,
North Yorkshire, LS24 9NB

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

POLICY STATEMENT

Written by Amanda Henson

Approved by Governors

Issued to staff

Reviewed

Reviewed

Reviewed

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Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Background Information

Tadcaster Grammar School is a comprehensive maintained co-educational school for student's aged 11 – 18. Students come from a predominantly rural background, including the small town of Tadcaster, and the York suburbs of Companthorpe and Bishopthorpe. The student intake reflects the wide, social nature of these areas; a majority of the students are European Caucasians and Christian.

Aims of Sex and Relationship Education

Tadcaster Grammar School believes that sex and relationship education is an educational entitlement of all students. We aim:

- ◆ to encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour;
- ◆ to encourage self-esteem;
- ◆ to encourage respect and consideration for others;
- ◆ to provide knowledge, information and support for students and their parents.

The aim of this policy is to clearly communicate to students, staff, parents, governors and visitors the content of the sex and relationship education curriculum and the manner in which it will be delivered.

Content of Sex and Relationship Education Curriculum

Sex and Relationship Education provides knowledge and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes, which will allow students to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way.

a) Knowledge and information

Key Stage 3: Puberty, menstruation and health and hygiene, friendships, structure and function of the parts of the reproductive systems, conception and development of a foetus, contraception, use of condoms, sexually transmitted infectious infections, relationships. Same sex relationships, transgender and bi-sexual relationships.

Key Stage 4: Conception, sexual responsibility, sexual health, contraceptives and emergency contraception, abortion, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, helping agencies, genetics, where to go for help and advice.

Key Stage 5: Responsibility and awareness of the consequences of their actions, promotion of a healthy body, information regarding professional health providers, relationships and acceptance of individuality, self examination, smear testing.

Considerable knowledge and information is imparted on a one to one basis.

b) **Values and beliefs**

As well as knowledge and information students will be encouraged to consider the importance of the following values, which are derived from the school's value system:

- ◆ respect and valuing of themselves and others;
- ◆ understanding and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others;
- ◆ responsibility for their own actions;
- ◆ responsibility to the school, their family and the wider community.

c) **Skills and abilities**

- ◆ communication including the making and keeping of friendships;
- ◆ assertiveness;
- ◆ decision making;
- ◆ recognising and using opportunities to develop a healthy lifestyle;
- ◆ accepting responsibility for actions.

Organisation

a) Sex and Relationship Education is co-ordinated by the School Health and Curriculum Support Manager, and Head of Personal, Social and Citizenship Education.

b) Delivery is through:

- ◆ planned aspects of Personal, Social and Citizenship Education, Science and R.E. curricula;
- ◆ addressing moral and ethical issues, which may arise from topics in all areas of the school curriculum. Within this category, as long as any discussion takes place within the context of the subject it will not be deemed to be part of the sex and relationship education programme and, therefore, not part of parental withdrawal.

c) Teaching approaches

A variety of teaching approaches are used throughout the sex and relationship education curriculum.

d) Student groupings

Students are usually taught in mixed ability and mixed gender groups. Sometimes classes are taught as single gender groups.

e) Resources

- ◆ Materials – a wide range of teaching resources are available to teachers and for inspection by parents through the School Health and Curriculum Support Manager.
- ◆ Staff – it is important that staff feel comfortable in teaching sex and relationship education. Support is offered through in-service training, external courses and from the Tutor co-ordinating Health Education in the LEA.

Specific Issues

The following issues may occur as part of education. Staff, parents and students need to understand the school's procedures.

a) Confidentiality and advice

Students will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential and should understand that if certain disclosures are made, certain actions will ensue. At the same time students will be offered sensitive and appropriate support. All adults will adhere to the following procedures.

- ◆ Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse. The school's safeguarding procedures will be invoked.
- ◆ Disclosure of pregnancy or request for advice on contraception. It is intended that the following procedure will ensure that if a student is in difficulty, that the student knows that they can talk to an adult in the school and that they will be supported.

A student will always be encouraged to talk with their parents. Professional guidance and information will be sought from a health professional.

The teacher delivering PSHE may give a student information regarding contraception and helping agencies. This may be relevant in cases of pregnancy, contraceptive advice including emergency contraception and suspected sexually transmitted infections.

b) Complaints procedure

Any complaints about the sex and relationship education curriculum should be made to the headteacher.

c) Parental partnership

Under the Education Act 1993, parents have the right to withdraw their children from all parts of the sex and relationship education programme outside the National Curriculum. Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to contact the School Health and curriculum Support Manager to discuss the issues, they are under no obligation to do so. The school notifies parents in writing when topics of sex and relationship education are taught that fall outside the National Curriculum.

Monitoring and Review

- a) Sex and relationship education will be monitored by the School Health and Curriculum Support Manager. The policy will be reviewed on an annual cycle or whenever necessary.
- b) An annual report will be made to the Governors.

Dissemination of the Policy

A summary of this policy is in the school prospectus. The full policy is available on request through the Headteacher or School Health and Curriculum Support Manager.