



Hamp Academy

Sex and Relationships Policy

Version 3.0

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**Policy Created
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Signature

Andy Berry
on behalf of the Sponsor

Signature

Chief Executive Officer
Bridgwater College Trust

**Governing Trust
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Policy Statement Sex and Relationship Education (SRE)

Sex and relationship education (SRE) is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships for family life built on respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity.

DfES 0116/2000

Rationale

- As a caring community Hamp Academy has a responsibility to promote the physical and emotional health of all pupils. Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) at the Academy provides both information about the biological aspects of sex and considers the skills needed to manage relationships.
- The programme is designed to support and complement the role of parents/carers who have the prime responsibility in this sensitive area. Answers to student questions and the content are provided within the ethos and values of the Academy as set out in our prospectus and Equality Policies.
- The Academy is committed to developing mutual respect and care for others, and enhancing self-esteem and confidence.
- The Academy will enable young people to become aware of a range of views about sex related issues and to reach their own informed opinions.
- The Academy is committed to developing skills related to decision making in sexual behaviour and relationships.
- The Academy is committed to teaching SRE at different stages throughout the Academy.
- SRE will be differentiated to meet the needs of young people at different stages of development.
- The Academy will conduct SRE in a sensitive manner taking full account of the needs, backgrounds and circumstances of our young people. SRE will be inclusive.
- This policy has been developed using advice from the SRE Guidance from the DfE, The National Healthy Academy Standard, PSHCE (QCA) and the Social Exclusion Unit report on teenage pregnancy.

Principles

Delivery of SRE

- SRE is delivered within the curriculum to Year 5 and Year 6 pupils in KS2.
- SRE will teach about relationships, love and care and the responsibilities of parenthood as well as sex. SRE will give equal focus to boys and girls.
- SRE will teach the taking on of responsibility and the consequences of one's actions in relation to sexual activity and parenthood. This will include providing information about contraception, safe sex and how to access sources of further advice and treatment.
- SRE will give young people a clear understanding of the arguments for delaying sexual activity and resisting pressure.
- The Academy will ensure that young people understand how the law applies to sexual relationships.

Involvement of parents, pupils and staff

- The Academy aims to keep parents informed about all aspects of the SRE curriculum and encourages parents to read this policy. Parents can request access to resources and information being used in class, and the Academy will do everything it can to ensure that parents are comfortable with the education provided to their children.
- Pupils are encouraged to be considerate and respect the feelings and beliefs of their peers. Pupils are encouraged and hopefully feel comfortable to talk to a member of staff, regarding any concerns they have relating to sex education. Staff must consult the safeguarding team if there is a child protection concern or they feel ill-equipped to deal with the issue at hand.
- Parents/carers are the key people in teaching their children about sex and relationships and supporting their children's personal, social and emotional development.
- Parents/carers are encouraged to create an open home environment where pupils can engage, discuss and continue to learn about matters that have been raised through SRE activities.
- Parents and carers must be vigilant and responsive to concerns relating to inappropriate material available or viewed on-line, they should be aware of the relevant people within the Academy of whom they can speak with should they have concerns.

Right to Withdrawal

- Parents and carers do have a statutory right to withdraw the children in their care from SRE. This excludes withdrawal from the elements on human growth and reproduction which fall under the National Curriculum science.
- Any parent/carer wishing to withdraw their child from SRE should contact their child's teacher to discuss their concerns.
- SRE is a vital part of the Academy's curriculum, it supports child development and we strongly urge parents/carers to carefully consider their decision before withdrawing their child from this aspect of their education. However, it is acknowledged that the final decision on the issue is for the parent to take.

Safeguarding

- Teachers cannot offer unconditional confidentiality to pupils. Pupils will be made aware of this however, we will reassure pupils that their best interests will be maintained. If confidentiality has to be broken pupils will be informed first and then supported as appropriate. Staff will have reference to the Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding procedures in dealing with concerns over confidential conversations with students.
- It may be the case that discussion around what is acceptable and not acceptable in relationships may lead to the disclosure of a child protection issue. If this is the case, the child protection and safeguarding procedure will be followed and parents informed.
- If a staff member is approached by a pupil under 16 who is having, or is contemplating having sexual intercourse, the teacher should:
- Ensure that the pupil is accessing all the contraceptive and sexual health advice available and understands the risks of being sexually active;
- Encourage the pupil to talk to their parent or carer. Pupils may feel that they are more comfortable bringing these issues to a teacher they trust, but it is important that children and their parents have open and trusting relationships when it comes to sexual health and the School will encourage this as much as possible;
- Decide whether there is a child protection issue. This may be the case if the teacher is concerned that there is coercion or abuse involved. If a member of staff is informed that a pupil under 13 is having, or is contemplating having sexual intercourse, this will be dealt with under child protection procedures. Pupils with special educational needs may be more vulnerable to exploitation and less able to protect themselves from harmful influences. If staff are concerned that this is the case, they should seek support from the DCPCs to decide what is in the best interest of the child

Equal opportunities

- SRE provides a good foundation for talking openly and freely about the diversity of personal, social and sexual preferences. Prejudiced views will be challenged and equality promoted, any bullying that relates to sexual behaviour, gender, perceived gender or sexual orientation will be dealt with swiftly and seriously. This is the case for bullying of any kind and the procedures regarding this are outlined in the anti-bullying policy and the behaviour policy.