



## Pensby High School

### Sex and relationships Education Policy

<b>Version:</b>	2
<b>Ratified by:</b>	PPD & WB Committee
<b>Date ratified:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
<b>Policy Lead:</b>	H Davies
<b>Name of responsible committee and SLT lead:</b>	PPD & WB
<b>Date issued:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
<b>Review Date:</b>	Annually
<b>Target Audience:</b>	Whole School Community
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	On the policy

## **The Sex and Relationship Policy has 3 main elements:**

### **1. Attitudes and values**

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
- learning the value of stable and loving relationships in whatever form they may take
- learning the value of respect, love and care
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas
- developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.

### **2. Personal and social skills**

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- developing self-respect and empathy for others
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- managing conflict
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

### **3. Knowledge and understanding**

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national sexual health advice, contraception and support services
- learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay
- the avoidance of unplanned pregnancy.

### **At Pensby High we will:**

- teach about relationships, love and care and the responsibilities of parenthood as well as sex;
- build self-esteem
- teach the taking on of responsibility and the consequences of one's actions in relation to sexual activity and parenthood
- teach that family is a broad concept; not just one model, to include a variety of types of family structure, and acceptance of different approaches, regardless of how they match our own
- provide young people with information about different types of contraception, safe sex and how they can access local sources of further advice and treatment;
- give young people a clear understanding of the arguments for delaying sexual activity and resisting pressure
- link sex and relationship education with issues of peer pressure and other risk-taking behaviour, such as drugs, smoking and alcohol
- ensure young people understand how the law applies to sexual relationships
- teach all students that informed consent is an active, yes, not just an absence of no. Consent cannot be assumed.

- generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on all sexual matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment
- ensure that the SRE is delivered in a culturally and ethically sensitive manner.

**We will specifically cover areas such as:**

- a) menstruation
- b) contraception
- c) abortion
- d) safer sex
- e) sexually transmitted infections

**Delivery**

Sex education at Pensby High School is taught in a cross curricular way through PSHE, Ethics & Philosophy and Science. The diverse staffing and the variety of experience contained within this teaching body is seen as a valuable resource for effective delivery of sex and relationships education. The provision of sex education is seen as progressive in terms of language, concepts and content which increases in depth and complexity as pupils' progress through the school.

Throughout the course of teaching a variety of sensitive issues will inevitably be explored. It is recognised that an individual's sexuality is a highly personal matter. The teaching of sex education at Pensby will place stress upon the need for understanding and awareness of a variety of sexual preferences across the spectrum of human sexuality, therefore to explore all aspects of sexual orientation.

**The Science Curriculum at KS3 and KS4 has the following content:**

**During Key Stage 3, pupils are taught:-**

- a. that living things have structures, (cells, tissues and organs) that enable life processes to take place
- b. the ways in which some cell types, including sperm and ovum are adapted to their functions
- c. the human reproductive system, menstrual cycle, fertilisation and how the foetus develops in the uterus, (including the role of the placenta)
- d. the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence
- e. that bacteria and viruses can affect health
- f. about environmental and inherited causes of variation
- g. that selective breeding can lead to new varieties.

**During Key Stage 4 Science lessons, pupils are taught:-**

- a. the way in which hormonal control occurs, including the effects of insulin and sex hormones
- b. the medical uses of hormones including the control and promotion of fertility
- c. that sexual reproduction is a source of genetic variation
- d. how sex is determined in humans
- e. the basic principles of genetic engineering, cloning and selective breeding
- f. how cells divide by meiosis to produce gametes
- g. how variation arises from genetic causes, environmental causes and a combination of both.

***Parents do not have a right to withdraw their children from this part of the curriculum.***

### **Pupil Withdrawal**

Parents can have access to the policy. Please see the website.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from aspects of the programme and for alternative arrangements to be made for the pupils' supervision. However, they may not be withdrawn from the RSE element of the science curriculum. As a school sexual health is taught to all students within the science curriculum.

The request to withdraw must be made in writing to the Headteacher, Mr K Flanagan.

Reviewed by H Davies October 2023

