School aims

- To strive for the highest standards in all that we do
- To recognise and reward achievement, commitment and success
- To provide access for all to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum
- To encourage all to be responsible members of the community

Rationale and Objectives

This Sex and Relationships Policy is based on national and local guidance. It addresses elements of the OFSTED standard “personal development, behaviour and welfare”, particularly the need to help young people be healthy and stay safe. It should be read alongside the school’s SMSC, PSHE, Confidentiality and Child Protection policies and the DFE’s statutory guidance for “Keeping Children Safe in Education” (September 2016).

Throughout this policy the term sex and relationships education (SRE) rather than sex education is used. This is to stress that sex education needs to go beyond biological information: focussing on clarifying attitudes and values; developing self-esteem and the skills to manage relationships. This is in line with current DfE guidance, stating that SRE is; ‘Lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health’.

SRE is part of the PSHE and Beliefs & Values curricular at Brookfield School. Students have a right to appropriate SRE based on their individual needs. We aim to address issues that are important in the lives of our students but not to go beyond what they can comprehend. Care needs to be taken not to underestimate student’s feelings, understanding, current and possible future relationships and sexual experiences.

This policy takes account of Hampshire Children’s Trust Sex and relationships education policy for young people (2010)

Implementation and Monitoring.

Through the Personal and Social Health Education, Science, and Beliefs & Values curricular, we believe and support the following educational aims in respect of Sex and Relationship Education.

- to enable students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge and challenging attitudes
- to promote recognition and understanding of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle

Aspire ● Act ● Achieve
• to provide accurate information about sex and relationships in order to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of their behaviour
• to widen understanding about related health and social issues, eg, pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and inappropriate use of communications technology.

These aims are fulfilled through aspects of students' experiences in the taught and informal curricular. Emphasis is primarily in PSHE but other opportunities to reinforce learning will occur in other areas of the curriculum, notably Beliefs & Values and Science.

Students are exposed to information from a variety of angles and given opportunities to look at their own and other's attitudes. Students practise skills in relation to peer pressure and managing incidents. Self-image is enhanced through emphasis on skills, qualities and positive decision making. A wide range of media for sex and relationships education is employed including peer-led education, drama, videos, games, research, discussion etc.

Sex and Relationship Education is monitored by a member of the School Leadership Team and by the school's governing body. Students are canvassed on their opinions and are asked what additions they would like to see to the SRE programme. Parents are consulted directly on matters pertaining to SRE, such as our provision of a Health Drop-In Centre – see below. Advice from health professionals is also sought and valued.

The Curriculum
Through the curriculum students cover the three aspects of SRE - values and attitudes; knowledge and understanding; and personal and social skills.

• Before they reach us at Key Stage 2 and through the Year 7 Science curriculum students are taught about anatomy and physiology.
• Through the Year 7 PSE curriculum students learn about the changes that occur during puberty; both physiologically and psychologically.
• Through the Year 9 PSE curriculum students learn about healthy and appropriate relationships, the difference between friendships and sexual relationships, issues relating to consent and the law, taking responsibility for their sexual health, appropriate contraception and how to protect against sexually shared infections (SSI’s).
• Through Year 10 and 11, students will build on their learning from previous years, returning to important issues such as those related to consent, as well as considering the importance and diversity of relationships, and the responsibilities of parenting.

It is important to acknowledge that children will require differing information about sex and relationships at different ages.

Staff Development/ Support
In service training is given, where needed, in order for all staff to familiarise or widen their knowledge of issues relating to SRE (and to develop a range of teaching and learning styles for delivering SRE). PSHE staff will receive regular training up-dates on sex and relationship education from appropriate sources. The Learning Leader for PSHE will arrange this after consulting with the Hampshire Adviser for the most appropriate and up-to-date information, as well as utilising the services of Hampshire Police as part of their ‘Safe4Me’ programme.
Our Health Drop-In centre

Our Health Drop-In Centre was initiated by the Learning Leader for PSHE and a working party of Key Stage 4 students to ‘plug’ a perceived gap in local medical provision for teenagers. The idea was taken to Governors and presented to parents, receiving the full support of both groups. The centre is open on a Friday afternoon in the school’s medical area, and is staffed by the school’s nurse and an NHS Contraceptive nurse. Support and advice is provided on a range of physical and emotional health issues.

Parental Information/ Support

As SRE can be an area of concern to parents, we make every effort to inform parents of the content of our SRE curriculum. Parents are encouraged to become actively involved in all stages of their child’s development and learning. Parents have the right to withdraw their child, up to the age of 15, from some areas of SRE, as stated in the school brochure. Consequently, concerned parents are invited to discuss curriculum content with the relevant class teacher, and the Learning Leader PSHE if appropriate.

*The Sex and Relationship Education Policy will be reviewed every two years, or sooner if legislation changes.*