

Sex and Relationships (SRE) Policy

1.0 The Cumberland School Mission Statement

The Cumberland School is an ambitious school, within a diverse and exciting community. Our motto, 'Determined, ambitious learners,' encompasses all of our school community: students, staff and LSB members. Our commitment to providing the best opportunities to learn and excel goes hand in hand with our commitment to equal opportunities and effective inclusion.

2.0 Policy links to school mission, aims and values

All of the work of The Cumberland School is intended to support the delivery of our mission statement in full. This policy is specifically intended to ensure that our approach to Sex and Relationships Education is appropriate and effective.

At The Cumberland School we use Sex and Relationships Education to help students to develop knowledge, skills and understanding about the value of loving, diverse and stable relationships along with developing an understanding of their own sexuality and sexual health. The aim is to help young people lead confident, healthy lives to enable them to be active citizens with due regard to the value of family life in all its forms. It is delivered through the schools science and PSHE curriculum.

3.0 Policy Aims

At The Cumberland School we:

- Support students to view their sexuality positively
- Raise students' awareness about their developing bodies and emotions, and those of others
- Support students to appreciate the similarities and differences encountered in others
- Support students to understand different personal relationships and to enable students to understand the dangers of exploitation and what they can do about it
- Give students the self-confidence to relate to others
- Ensure that students feel confident discussing issues of sex and sexuality
- Encourage students to be responsible for their own sexuality
- Ensure that students learn about reproduction and examine and discuss the nature and functions of 'family life' and personal relationships in all their varieties
- Prevent homophobic bullying and the use of homophobic language both in and outside of school
- Provide information about contraception, sexually transmitted diseases and safe sex
- Ensure students have access to information about places where they can go for information and support, both in and out of school
- Ensure that the school Sex Education Programme includes the elements recommended by the DfE. Students will have an opportunity to reflect in a structured manner upon issues, some of which may be controversial in society.

4.0 Statutory Framework

Under the Education Act (1993) and the Education Reform Act (1998) all schools are required to maintain a statement of Policy regarding Sex & Relationships Education. This policy complies with DfE Guidance on Sex and Relationships (0116/2000) and the supplementary guidance SRE for the 21st Century.

5.0 Expectations of Teaching and Learning of Sex and Relationship Education

- Students will receive broad and balanced teaching empowering them to remain emotionally and physically healthy and safe
- Students' learning will support them to make informed decisions in their relationships
- Students' learning will support them in understanding inappropriate forms of sexual contact, conduct and activity, both inside and outside the school and in making healthy decisions with regards to these areas

6.0 Roles and Responsibilities for Implementation

The Leadership Group will:

- Accept overall responsibility for the quality of learning and teaching of sex and relationship education
- Monitor the implementation of the policy via learning visits and work scrutiny
- Provide opportunities for staff training to take place on training days and other times

The Head of PSHE will:

- Provide resources for its delivery
- Monitor feedback from PSHE learning walks
- Act on feedback from staff to ensure best practice is being delivered
- Provide guidance to teachers needing support
- Ensure high standards of its delivery are being maintained

Teachers and support staff will:

- Teach the content as outlined in the science and PSHE programmes of study
- Provide adequate support to students to encourage engagement

The Local School Board will:

- Monitor and review the policy and its practice

Parents should:

- Support the school's policy on sex and relationships education

7.0 Right of withdrawal of students

Some parents prefer to take the responsibility for aspects of this element of a student's education. They have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education programme except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum (i.e. the study of human growth and reproduction in science lessons). We would make alternative arrangements for students in such cases. Parents are encouraged to discuss their decisions with staff at the earliest opportunity.

8.0 Monitoring and evaluation through

- Weekly learning visits
- Work scrutiny done by LG and HOL's
- Whole school assessment cycle
- Scrutiny and review of policy by LSB on a triennial basis

8.0 Links with other policy areas

- Anti-bullying policy
- Equal Opportunities policy
- Child Protection, Safeguarding and Early Help policy

Responsible for Review:	Lisa Smith, Assistant Headteacher
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