



SEX EDUCATION & RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

LSA Technology and Performing Arts College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and all staff and volunteers.

1 RATIONALE

- 1.1 Sex Education forms part of a wider programme of Health Education, which in school is taught within the Life Programme. Aspects of sexual development and behaviour are taught in the context of a moral framework and with regard to the values of family life. The need for self-restraint, dignity and respect for others is emphasised to both sexes and students are taught the emotional, moral and physical risks of promiscuous behaviour.
- 1.2 The programme also provides an understanding that positive, caring environments are essential for the development of a good self-image and that individuals are in charge of and responsible for their own bodies. It should also encourage the acquisition of skills and attitudes which allow pupils to manage their relationship in a responsible and healthy manner.

2 AIMS OF THE SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMME

- 2.1 To overcome ignorance and increase knowledge and understanding.
- 2.2 To reduce risks to themselves and others.
- 2.3 To promote responsible behaviour.
- 2.4 To understand their own bodies and changes that take place.
- 2.5 To reduce guilt and anxiety.
- 2.6 To combat exploitation.
- 2.7 To facilitate communication on sexual matters and have a knowledge of where to seek help and advice.
- 2.8 To develop educational skills for future parents and carers

- 2.9 To consider the advantages and disadvantages of various methods of family planning in terms of personal preferences and the social and moral implications.

3 THE CONTEXT OF THE SEX AND RELATIONSHIP PROGRAMME

- 3.1 Sex Education will be taught as part of the Personal, Social and Health Education programme in Life Programme. Areas of focus will be on the sexual behaviour of human relationships, contraception and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and AIDS. The programme will look to encourage an exploration of personal, social and moral considerations and will seek to equip students with the skills to resist unwanted pressure. In line with Government requirements sex education in Science will be restricted to biological aspects of sexual behaviour. In other subject areas opportunities for considering broader emotional and ethical issues to sexual attitudes may arise and be dealt with accordingly.
- 3.2 The programme will present issues in an objective and balanced manner so that students can:
- Understand a range of sexual attitudes and behaviours in present day society.
 - Have knowledge of legal issues.
 - Make informed, reasoned and responsible decisions about personal values they will adopt at School and in adult life.
 - Foster self-esteem, self-awareness and skills of assertiveness that will enable them to resist and avoid unwelcome peer and social pressure.

4 DEALING WITH SENSITIVE ISSUES

- 4.1 Students will be presented with a balanced range of viewpoints on issues so that they can assess the evidence and explore ideas in order to formulate their own ideas.
- 4.2 In the classroom ground rules will be set with regard to language and how comments should be treated with respect and nobody being ridiculed.
- 4.3 Students are encouraged to consider the importance of self-restraint, dignity and respect for themselves and others. They are also helped to recognise the physical, emotional and moral risks of casual and promiscuous behaviour.

5 SEX EDUCATION DELIVERY – WHO AND HOW

- 5.1 Aspects of Sex Education will normally be delivered by the Health Professionals who are attached to the School. The message they convey to students is 'delay'.
- 5.2 The groups taught will normally be of mixed ability. Classes will involve group discussion and the use of video/CDs and other resources.

- 5.3 Visitors making presentations to groups will be accompanied by the member of LSA staff.
- 5.4 When outside agencies deliver to groups' consideration will be given to the students' age and maturity.

6 ADVICE & CONFIDENTIALITY

- 6.1 Staff may not offer one to one advice on contraception or sexual behaviour. Neither can they promise total confidentiality to students as certain issues may have to be passed on to others within the School. Issues which may need to be passed include child protection issues and pregnancies. Concerns must be related to one of the following for further action:

- College Leader
- Designated Child Protection Officers
- School Nurse (drop in sessions)

Further advice on confidentiality is contained in a separate policy.

7 CURRICULUM CONTENT

- 7.1 Sex Education will be delivered by a variety of methods throughout the school. This will include:

- Whole year assemblies
- Flexible days
- The Life Lessons
- Other Individual curricular lessons

- 7.2.1 Other sexual health related initiatives are delivered to students in line with national programmes e.g. Chlamydia screening, HPV vaccinations

7.3 SCIENCE

- 7.3.1 Looks at biological aspects of sex. In KS3 investigations take place into fertility, body parts, how you get pregnant, safe sex, IVF, pregnancy, labour and birth. In KS4 subjects covered include genes, inheritance and inherited disease.

7.4 RELIGIOUS STUDIES

- 7.4.1 Covers Human Relationships, Contraception, Homosexuality, Christian attitudes and Muslim beliefs, Marriage, Divorce, Separation, Commitment and Responsibilities in Relationships, Value and Purpose of Sex, Promiscuity, Civil Partnerships, Medical Ethics, Abortion, Fertility Treatment and Embryo Research.

8 PARENTAL RIGHTS

- 8.1 Parents have no right to withdraw their child from any or all parts of the Sex Education programme. Any parental concerns or questions about the Sex Education Policy should contact the Head of Personal Education.

9 MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY

- 9.1 Head of Personal Development will be responsible for the day to day implementation of the policy in relation to the preparation and delivery of Sex

Education within the curriculum. Monitoring of the policy will consider student voice activities and discussions with appropriate staff.

- 9.2 This policy will be reviewed every three years in consultation with the Governors, Head Teacher, College Leaders, School Nurse and Head of Personal Development.

Reviewed by: Standards Committee

Last Reviewed: July 2017

New Review Due: July 2020