



Sex and Relationships Education Policy

At Isaac Newton Academy our aim is to equip every student with the knowledge, learning power and character necessary for success at university and beyond. Effective sex and relationships education (SRE) makes a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by students in order to establish and maintain positive, healthy relationships. It enables young people to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.

The SRE Policy at Isaac Newton Academy is based on the principle that SRE involves life-long learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It supports students in forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex and sexuality, relationships and feelings. SRE is an important educational entitlement for young people because it is a means by which they can protect themselves from abuse, exploitation, unintended pregnancies, STIs and HIV/AIDS. It helps them to learn to respect themselves and others, supports them in managing the changes during puberty and adolescence, and prepares them for an adult life in which they:

- are aware of and enjoy their sexuality
- develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour
- have the confidence and self esteem to value themselves and others
- behave responsibly within sexual and personal relationships
- communicate effectively
- have the information and skills to protect themselves and their partner from unintended/unwanted conceptions and STIs including HIV
- neither exploit others nor become exploited
- access confidential advice and support.

Learning Outcomes

At Isaac Newton Academy in Key Stage 3 SRE is taught through the Science curriculum and during extended tutor periods. At Key stage 4, SRE is taught through the PSHE programme. We ensure that the SRE programme is relevant to all students, is age and stage appropriate and that the issues covered are managed sensitively, with an awareness of students' cultural and religious beliefs and perspectives.

The following statements illustrate the learning outcomes for SRE at Key Stage 3 and 4 at the Academy. They draw on DFE and other guidance on SRE and they reflect elements of the non-

statutory framework for PSHE. (The statements marked with an asterisk are part of the requirements for National Curriculum Science.)

Students will be able to:

- manage changing relationships
- recognise risk of personal safety in sexual behaviour and be able to make safe decisions
- ask for help and support
- explain the relationship between their self-esteem and how they see themselves
- develop skills of assertiveness in order to resist peer pressure and stereotyping
- see the complexity of moral, social and cultural issues and form views of their own
- develop good interpersonal skills to sustain existing relationships as they grow and change and which will help them make new relationships
- be tolerant of the diversity of personal, social and sexual preference in relationships
- develop empathy with the core values of family life in all its variety of forms
- recognise the need for commitment, trust and love in meaningful relationships which may manifest themselves in a variety of forms, including marriage
- recognise the stages of emotions in relation to loss and change caused by divorce, separation and new family members and how to manage their feelings positively.

Students will know and understand:

- that fertilisation in humans is the fusion of a male and a female cell*
- the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence*
- about the human reproductive system, including the menstrual cycle and fertilisation*
- how the foetus develops in the uterus*
- how the growth and reproduction of bacteria and the replication of viruses can affect health*
- how the media influence understanding and attitudes towards sexual health
- how good relationships can promote mental well-being
- the law relating to sexual behaviour of young people
- the sources of advice and support
- when and where to get help, such as at a genito-urinary medicine clinic.

Students will have considered:

- the benefits of sexual behaviour within a committed relationship
- that how they see themselves affects their self-confidence and behaviour
- the importance of respecting difference in relation to gender and sexuality
- how it feels to be different and to be discriminated against
- issues such as the implications of early sexual activity
- the unacceptability of prejudice and homophobic bullying
- what rights and responsibility mean in relationships.

Partnership with Parents/carers

At Isaac Newton Academy SRE is designed to support and complement the role of parents/carers who have the prime responsibility for their child's sex and relationships education. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from part or all of sex and relationships education provided outside of the Science curriculum. Parents wishing to withdraw their child should make an appointment to see the Principal. If, following the meeting, they still wish to withdraw their child,

they should put their request in writing, stating which part(s) of the programme they wish to withdraw their child from.

Related Policies

INA PSHE Policy

INA Equal Opportunities Policy

INA SMSC Policy

INA FGM Policy

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