
RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Person(s) Responsible:	Mrs C Charman
Governors' Committee:	Curriculum Development Committee
Last Review Date:	Spring 2021
Next Review Date:	Spring 2022
Status:	Statutory

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and policy development

An audit of our current Personal, Social and Health (PSHE) programme has been carried out to identify gaps in provision. We are currently in a period of consultation with stakeholders including staff, parents and students about the way that PSHE is delivered at Collingwood College. Our aim is to ensure that our provision meets the statutory guidance by Summer 2021.

Vision

“To enable every individual, regardless of ability, to achieve their full potential, to prepare for future life by developing their awareness of self and of the choices and risks they face with respect to relationships at present and in the future and as a result to have the confidence and security to make those choices.”

Aims

Collingwood College aims to help and support its students through their physical, emotional, and moral development. The tutorial programme will be used to help students learn to respect themselves and others, and to move with confidence from childhood through adolescence and into adulthood by:

- Providing a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Preparing students for puberty, and giving them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Helping students develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Creating a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teaching students the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

Implementation

Provision

Aspects of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) are taught by specialist teachers in Science and Philosophy, Religion and Culture lessons, in addition to the tutorial programme, which is delivered by form tutors who are appropriately trained.

- **Sexual Health:** Assemblies focus on:
 - Girls - further information on pregnancy and prevention of, breast awareness, thrush, cystitis etc.
 - Boys - talk and video on testicular cancer, awareness of bodily changes, self-checking etc.

- In the Year 7 Enterprise Day, outside agencies deliver sessions on 'Healthy Relationships' and online grooming is covered in an online safety session. Students also learn about risks linked to alcohol.
- A theatre group performs a production on an RSE issue such as teenage pregnancy/consent/domestic violence during Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- RSE is included as part of the Sixth Form seminar programme.
- In compliance with the 1996 Education Act Collingwood provides information about Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV/AIDS through the RSE programme in Year 9 and again in Year 11.
- The RSE programme is evaluated through student voice and a comprehensive survey is undertaken following the Year 7 Enterprise Day which considers the relevance and appropriateness of the topics covered.

Lesson content

- Lesson content is made available to parents through curriculum booklets and letters home at the relevant points in the curriculum and parents may choose to withdraw their child from RSE lessons.
- The Year Managers and/or Subject Leader PSHE will enter into discussion with parents who express a wish to withdraw their child from RSE lessons.
- Year Managers and the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) are made aware of any curriculum content that may impact on vulnerable students in order that they can identify those students and ensure that they receive appropriate support.

All staff must be familiar with and follow the College Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

- During all RSE sessions ground rules must be established to ensure that all students are aware of what is expected and what is acceptable.
- Staff must ensure that all information given is correct and direct students to Year Managers or the Subject Leader PSHE for any further information.
- Child Protection Procedures must be followed in the event of a disclosure being made.
- Staff must inform students where to find information on keeping safe.
- Notice boards must be maintained offering telephone numbers and websites where students can go for confidential advice and guidance on RSE related issues.

Staff Training

- The Subject Leader PSHE will maintain an up-to-date knowledge of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) issues and deliver training to all staff who deliver the RSE programme as required.
- All staff are advised and updated on the Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy in order that they can deal appropriately with sensitive topic areas. This is also covered during new staff Induction programme.

Confidentiality

- Teachers and other College staff will not put pressure on the students to disclose personal information and will discourage fellow students from applying such pressure.
- Ground rules will be used in lessons.
- Boundaries for confidentiality will be set in lessons and in discussions with teachers and visitors to the College.
- Teachers must not agree to offer confidentiality in matters involving child protection issues.

Parents' right to withdraw

- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-Science components of sex education within RSE up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the College will arrange this.
- Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing to the Principal.
- A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the student's educational record. The Principal will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.
- Alternative work will be given to students who are withdrawn from sex education.