



## **Old Buckenham High School Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

### **Introduction**

Name Of School:	Old Buckenham High School
Date of Policy :	22 June 2006
Member of staff responsible:	Mr. W. Armstrong (Assistant Headteacher) + Mrs. Cate Harper (Governor)
Date Policy Adopted :	
Major review date:	June 2008

### **Background Information**

Old Buckenham High School is a mixed comprehensive school catering for pupils aged between 11 and 16 in rural Norfolk.

### **Policy Statement**

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is an entitlement for all pupils as part of a broad and balanced curriculum in preparation for adult life. It is a lifelong learning process of acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs and attitudes about sex, sexuality, relationships and feelings.

Effective SRE can make a significant contribution to the development of personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being.

All secondary schools are required to provide a SRE programme which includes information about sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS. The National Curriculum Science Orders contain mandatory sex education elements which will be delivered in science lessons.

### **Aims and Objectives**

This policy is a working document which provides guidance and information on all aspects of SRE in the school for staff, parents/guardians and governors. This document will be available to all these groups upon request from the school office.

Our aims are to promote the growth of the whole person, so enabling our students to become confident, capable and caring and able to make informed choices about themselves and their behaviour.

### **Moral and Values Framework**

The SRE programme at Old Buckenham High School reflects the school ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values:

- Respect for self
- Respect for others
- Responsibility for their own actions
- Responsibility for their family, friends, school and wider community.

### **Delivery of SRE**

SRE is delivered in a cross-curricular manner at Old Buckenham High School. Aspects are delivered in science lessons and aspects delivered via Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) sessions. The content contains moral, legal, cultural, religious and ethical aspects as well as a skills base involving assertiveness and behaviour.

SRE will be taught within a moral framework, the values of family life being a focus for personal development. It is important that the Head teacher, teaching staff and Governors are aware of, and sensitive to, the background, beliefs and varied personal circumstances of the pupils within the school.

### **Equal Opportunities Statement**

The school is committed to the provision of SRE to all its pupils. The programme of study aims to respond to the diversity of pupil's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds. Equal time and provision is allocated to all groups, but there may be occasions where pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) are given extra support from SEN staff.

### **Organisation**

SRE is not delivered in isolation, but is firmly embedded in all curriculum areas, including PSHE and citizenship. The main content is delivered during enhancement days\* during the school year. SRE is normally delivered by school staff in mixed gender and ability groups, unless it is deemed more appropriate for topics to be covered in single sex groups.

Occasionally, appropriate and suitably experienced and/or knowledgeable visitors from outside school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of aspects of SRE within school. The following code of practice is used when visitors are used to support the delivery of the PSHE and/or SRE programme:

- Visitors are invited in to school because of the particular expertise they are able to make,
- All visitors are made familiar with and understand the school's SRE policy and work within it,
- Input to SRE and PSHE sessions is part of a planned programme and is agreed with staff in advance
- All visitors are supervised/supported by a member of staff at all times
- The input of visitors is monitored and evaluated by staff and pupils. This evaluation will inform future planning.

Staff delivering the SRE material are encouraged to access appropriate training and support to help them deliver effective SRE.

## **Specific Issues within SRE**

### **Confidentiality**

As a general rule a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he will discuss the concerns with the designated Child Protection Officer (CC), who may confer with the Headteacher before any decision is made.

The pupil concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and the reasons why. The pupil will be supported throughout the process.

### **Child Protection**

The school has a separate Child Protection Policy. Effective SRE may bring about disclosures of child protection issues and staff should be aware of the procedures for reporting these concerns.

### **Controversial and Sensitive Issues**

Staff are aware that views around SRE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all SRE issues are taught without bias. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions, but also respect others that may have different opinions.

### **Withdrawal**

Parents/guardians have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE provided at the school except for those parts within the statutory National Curriculum. Those parents/guardians wishing to exercise this right are invited to see the Headteacher who will explore any concerns and discuss the impact that withdrawal may have on the pupil. Once a pupil has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the SRE programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed.

Materials are available to parents/guardians who wish to supplement the school SRE programme or wish to deliver SRE to their children at home.

### **Dealing with Questions**

Both formal and informal SRE arising from pupils' questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the Child Protection Officer if they are concerned.

### **Dissemination**

All staff members and governors receive a copy of the policy. Parents/Guardians may request a copy of the policy from the school office. A summary of the policy is included in the school prospectus and on the school website.

A major review of the policy will be conducted every two years.

### **Note**

\* An enhancement day is a school day where normal timetabled lessons are cancelled and an alternative programme is set up. These days will allow for delivery of PSHE, Citizenship, Enterprise, Work Related learning and other specialised areas in a more flexible way.