



# **Northampton School** *for Boys*

## **Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

**Approved by:**            **Governors' Welfare Committee**  
**Date:**                    **September 2019**  
**Review Date:**        **September 2020**

## **Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

Sex and Relationship education is defined by government as a process of lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It encompasses learning about the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect love and care. It also covers sex, sexuality and sexual health. It does not promote any particular sexual orientation or sexual activity.

The aim of the sex and relationship education programme at Northampton School *for Boys* is to encourage students to develop a healthy, mature and responsible attitude towards sexual behaviour in human relationships.

All pupils attending Northampton School *for Boys* will have access to a programme of Sex and Relationship Education.

Some parts of Sex and Relationship Education are compulsory – these are part of the National Curriculum for Science and cover aspects of human growth and reproduction. Pupils cannot be withdrawn from these lessons. However, parents may withdraw their children from other parts of Sex and Relationship Education, particularly where these are based upon strong moral and/or religious principles.

### **The Course Format**

- The factual knowledge of human sexual reproduction will be taught as part of the Science Curriculum.
- The moral/social aspects of sex education will be undertaken in the Citizenship and Guidance programme as an integral part of the health education topic which will mainly be taught by the Form Tutor. The C&G component of sex and relationship education will encourage the students to consider, discuss and evaluate issues in order to promote understanding and respect and to celebrate the diversity within school and the wider community.
- Because of the nature and content of Sex and Relationship Education, a sensitive approach is essential. Consideration will be given to cultural issues and any issues relating to SEN and disability in order that all students have access to this aspect of the curriculum. This is best provided in form groups with the Form Tutor since, in most circumstances, they would have been together for the previous academic year.
- Sexual activity will be viewed from the standpoint of human relationships. Sexual orientation will be addressed in a factual and sensitive manner with work on relationships including same sex relationships and different families. It may also refer to gender identity. Issues of bullying related to these areas will also be discussed.
- Issues such as abortion, contraception and sexually transmitted infections including HIV and AIDS will be considered. In relation to STIs, discussion will include symptoms, causes, treatments and social consequences.
- The law as it relates to sexual activity will be pointed out to students.
- Students will be made aware of the various health agencies dealing with sexual matters.

### Key Issues

- the subject will be treated in a serious manner;
- sexual activity will be viewed from the standpoint of human relationships and all that they entail, including sexual orientation;
- teachers will discuss issues such as sexually transmitted infections, contraception, abortion, gender identity, different families, etc;
- teachers should be aware of the emotional and physical changes which many of the boys will be experiencing and therefore, sensitivity is needed when dealing with such issues;
- homosexuality and bisexuality will be addressed in a factual and sensitive manner and issues of bullying related to this will also be discussed;
- the issue of STIs will be discussed and students made fully aware of STIs' symptoms, causes, treatment and social consequences;
- teachers will ensure that pupils are aware of the law as it relates to sexual activity;
- pupils will be made aware of the various health agencies (local and/or national) dealing with sexual matters.

The aim of the Sex and Relationship Education programme at Northampton School *for Boys* is to encourage pupils to develop a healthy, mature and responsible attitude towards sexual behaviour and human relationships. The objectives of Sex and Relationship Education are to inform children of the physical aspect of human reproduction and of the responsibility involved in sexual behaviour.

The above policy statement is in accordance with the "Sex and Relationship Education Guidance July 2000". This requires schools to take "all reasonably practicable steps" to ensure the school's programme of sex and relationship education encourages pupils to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life.

The moral/social aspect of Sex Education at Northampton School *for Boys* is taught mainly by Form Tutors as part of the Citizenship and Guidance programme. This encourages pupils to consider and evaluate the following issues:

- the emotional and relationship difficulties arising out of puberty, e.g. difficulties with authority figures (parents, teachers, police);
- the responsibility that arises from sexual behaviour, i.e. casual sex; use of contraceptives; the implications of HIV and sexually transmitted infections, the trauma attached to unwanted pregnancies and the possible consequences e.g. abortions, young fatherhood, responsibility and financial commitment;
- the importance of treating all individuals with respect, including those who identify as LGBTQ;
- the negative consequences of sexism and lack of respect which may, at KS4, touch on the issue of pornography;
- the benefits and risks of lifestyle choices (eg alcohol and drugs), including choices relating to sexual activity

This dimension of Sex and Relationship Education seeks to encourage frank discussion and appreciation of the complicated area of human emotions and to gain an awareness of the problems that arise if sex is not treated in a responsible and mature nature.

**Monitoring and Review**

Northampton School *for Boys* will assess the SRE provision on an annual basis to ensure that the curriculum continues to meet the needs of all of our students. Account will be taken of any comments, concerns or complaints received by parents relating to the SRE curriculum and provision.

The Governing Body will review the policy on an annual basis.

**SPONSOR**                      Governors' Welfare Committee