



**Churchdown School Academy**  
ACHIEVING SUCCESS FOR ALL

## **Relationships and Sex Education Policy**

### **Churchdown School Mission Statement**

Our mission is to be a school where student development and learning are at the centre of everything we do. Students are expected to strive for personal excellence and demonstrate a commitment to learning as they fulfil their potential. Our community is a nurturing and caring one, where students are encouraged to show compassion, friendship and support towards one another. We aim to provide an education which is fully inclusive, where every child is valued for who they are and who they can become.

At Churchdown School the education we provide is guided by the values of integrity, resilience, respect, ambition and tolerance. These values are particularly important to us as we develop the students into lifelong learners and prepare them for a life beyond school.

### **Describe any consultation that has taken place**

Examples would be:

- pupil focus groups/school council
- questionnaires to parents/carers, any meetings etc.
- review of RSE curriculum content with staff and pupils
- consultation with wider school community e.g. school nurse
- consultation with school governors

### **Implementation and Review of Policy**

Implementation of the policy will take place after consultation with the Audit and Risk Committee in the spring term 2017. The next review date will be January 2019.

### **Dissemination**

The policy will be given to all members of the Governing Body, and all teaching and non-teaching members of staff. Copies of the document will be available to all parents through the school's prospectus and a copy is available in the school office. Details of the content of the RSE curriculum will also be published on the school website.

### **Defining Relationship and RSE**

The DFE guidance defines RSE as **“lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health”**

1. It is about the development of the pupil's knowledge and understanding of herself or himself as a sexual being, about what it means to be fully human, called to live in right relationships with self and others, and being enabled to make moral decisions in conscience. The DFE identifies three main elements: "attitudes and values, personal and social skills, and knowledge and understanding"

2. (The Welsh Assembly Government envisages that effective school RSE programmes help learners to develop the skills and knowledge appropriate to their age, understanding and development to enable them to make responsible decisions about their relationships, sexual health and well-being.

We are legally required to teach those aspects of RSE which are statutory parts of National Curriculum Science. (There is also a separate requirement for maintained secondary schools to teach about HIV, AIDS and sexually transmitted infections. This does not apply to academies).

### **Aims of RSE Policy**

We aim:

- to teach about the importance of relationships, moral development and family life;
- to encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour;
- to encourage self-esteem;
- to encourage respect and consideration for others;
- to provide support and information for young people and their parents.

### **Members of staff responsible**

The PSHE Co-ordinator organises the RSE programme through PSHE sessions. The Head of Religious Studies leads the RE department and oversees the schemes of work for Religious Education.

### **Issues considered in the delivery of lessons**

#### **1. Confidentiality**

- Pupils will be made aware that some information cannot be held confidential and made to understand that if certain disclosures are made certain actions will ensue. At the same time pupils will be offered sensitive and appropriate support. The following procedures will be adhered to by all adults.
  - a) Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse
  - b) Disclosure of pregnancy. The DSL will deal with any disclosure of this nature

#### **2. Use of visitors**

- The PSHE Co-ordinator will be in charge of booking all visitors for delivery of PSHE lessons. When booking visitors, the PSHE co-ordinator will consider carefully:
  - a) The visitor's suitability for delivering the programme.
  - b) The programme's suitability for the age groups targeted
  - c) The visitor's role in relation to the teacher and pupils, e.g. adviser, consultant, lecturer?

#### **3. Parental views**

- Under the Education Act of 1993 parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the RSE programme. Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to make an appointment to meet the teacher and discuss the issues but there is no obligation to do so.

Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in later RSE without parental approval. Pupils who are withdrawn will be catered for separately and provided with suitable work.

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#### **4. Disclosure**

- Pupils are discouraged from disclosing intimate details which are likely to cause subsequent embarrassment.
- Pupils are required to respect the privacy of themselves and others.

#### **5. Questions**

- No questions have to be answered quickly.
- Not all questions have to be answered publicly.
- Some questions the teacher may not be able to answer.

#### **6. Counselling**

- It must be clearly kept in mind that any questions about RSE must be covered by this policy and that counselling is not part of every teacher's role.

#### **7. Family life**

- The value of family life is an important aspect and will be approached largely through a consideration of the qualities and relationships between the group of people, with an emphasis of stability, respect, caring and support.

#### **8. Organisation**

- A variety of teaching approaches is adopted to give pupils relevant information to enable moral issues to be explored through discussion and to acquire appropriate skills.
- Pupils are taught in mixed ability and mixed gender groups.

#### **9. Content**

- RSE provides knowledge, and encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes which will allow pupils to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way.
- Topics covered include: relationships, puberty, friendship, love and conception, birth process, contraception, abortion, health issues, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, and safer sex.

*When this policy was reviewed, an equality impact assessment was conducted to ensure any changes did not have an adverse effect under the terms of the Equality Act 2010. Should you have any comments regarding this policy, please contact the school.*