

# Bullers Wood School

## Sex and Relationship Education Policy



*Quod Potes Tenta*  
*Strive to your Utmost*

Policy created by: Member of staff responsible for PSHE	Date of Adoption: 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	Date to be Reviewed: May 2016	To be reviewed by: A&C Committee
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# Sex and Relationships Education Policy

The Governors intend that sex and relationships education should be available to all students in accordance with the provisions of the 1996 Education Act, other relevant legislation and guidance from the Department of Education and Government recommendations.

## Aims of the policy

- To encourage young people to have due regard for moral considerations and for the value of family life and a stable, faithful relationship
- To foster recognition that both sexes should behave responsibly in sexual matters
- To provide knowledge of reproductive biology and for students to develop positive attitudes about their bodies
- To develop the ability to make informed and responsible decisions and assess risk
- To set sexual and physical development within the context of relationships involving trust, love, sharing, mutual respect and consideration
- To inform students of the law on sexual behaviour
- To understand that sexual behaviour links closely to emotional health and well being.
- To ensure lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender information is sensitively delivered in PSHE lessons at both KS3, KS4 and KS5

## Sex and Relationships Education and the Curriculum

### Key Stage 3

The programme, which will largely be delivered through discrete sessions during PSHE following the Sex and Relationship Education ASDAN short course and assemblies. This addresses physical and emotional aspects of puberty and adolescence, factual information about HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted infections and aspects of contraception, involving the practical demonstration of contraceptive devices. The science programme addresses factual information about human reproduction.

In Year 9 a 'Healthy Lifestyles Day' is held, co-ordinated by the School Nurse, and Bromley Health Care. This includes sessions concerning relationships, sexual health and teenage pregnancy, assertiveness training, risk assessment and appropriate responses. They also study alcohol and substance abuse and their impact on relationships and sexual activity and an awareness of differing sexualities.

### Key Stage 4

The programme consists of the ASDAN PSHE and Citizenship award. Whilst continuing and extending the factual inputs offered in KS3, students are invited to consider their moral response to these and other related issues. Issues pertaining to relationships and feelings are addressed including parenting, separation and divorce. The Religious Studies programme considers the importance of marriage and the family.

### Year 12-13

Opportunities are provided for students to consider issues of personal responsibility relating to sexual health and relationships particularly as part of the PSHE discrete lessons and assemblies delivered by outside speakers.

### Sexuality

Some of our students will define themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT). Students may also have LGBT parents/carers, brothers or sisters, other family members and/or friends. All our students will meet and work with LGBT people. Our approach to sex and relationship education will include sensitive, honest and balanced consideration of sexuality. Our pastoral support will take account of the needs of LGBT students. We shall also actively tackle homophobic behaviour.

There is an emphasis throughout these years on developing each student's self-esteem and respect for others, and on the importance of making unforced informed personal moral choices about sexual behaviour within an ethical framework informed by the law.

The Sex and Relationships Education programme aims to ensure that students "revisit" the issues covered at different stages and with growing moral maturity.

### **Information for Parents**

- Copies of this policy are available to all parents on request
- Materials used in sex and relationships education are available to parents on request
- Teachers may consult individual parents on their child's concerns
- Parents have the right to withdraw their daughters from sex education which takes place outside the National Curriculum (e.g. in the PSHE programme)
- Parents are informed by letter when sex and relationship education topics are to be considered except when it is a National Curriculum requirement.

A sample list of the materials used in sex and relationships education is available in school with a list of organisations whose speakers or advice is used. A programme of in-service training ensures teachers have current information, know the law and are sensitive to parental concerns.

### **Personal Advice and Counselling**

The School Nurse is available to provide a personal advice and counselling service for students on sexual matters. The School Nurse will follow the Registered Nurse professional code of conduct and ethics regarding confidentiality in such exchanges. Clearly in cases where the possibility of unlawful or sexually abusive behaviour is disclosed the School Nurse will refer to the Headteacher and to the Child Protection Officer. Occasionally students may wish to talk with teaching staff about their personal sexual concerns. In such cases, all teaching staff should refer to the student's year Guidance and Support Leader (GSL), who will offer support or referral to the School Nurse as appropriate. In cases where there is thought to be a possibility of unlawful or abusive sexual behaviour, the GSL will refer to the Headteacher and to the Child Protection Officer.

Where a student is seeking advice on matters such as sexuality, contraception, sexual behaviour or relationships, the School's policy will be to encourage the student to discuss these matters with their parent(s), their GP, or, in some cases, with an appropriate counselling service. When the School Nurse provides consultations for students the same procedures will apply.

All staff are also instructed that they may not promise confidentiality to any student, but should make it clear to the student that they are referring the matter to the appropriate member of staff. The School advises extreme caution to staff in offering any direct advice in matters concerned with sex or sexuality.

### **Ethos and the Parental Right of Withdrawal**

The School will aim to ensure that all classroom aspects of the Sex Education programme are handled sensitively, professionally and responsibly by teaching staff who acknowledge the importance of the School's values. Students will be encouraged to treat all sexual issues with thoughtfulness and with a due regard to individual responsibility.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The Sex and Relationship Education Policy will be monitored and reviewed at least once every three years by staff within the purview of the Governors' Achievement and Curriculum Committee.