

Queen Elizabeth's Grammar, Alford

A Selective Academy



Sex Education and Relationships Policy

Queen Elizabeth's Grammar, Alford will offer its students a curriculum that will prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life and promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students at the academy. The specific role of sex education is to provide knowledge about loving relationships, the nature of sexuality and the processes of human reproduction.

This school is a place where every person has the right to be individual, with regard to their sexual identity, and to be included in a safe and happy environment. Everyone at our school is equal and should be treated with respect.

This means that at QEGS we will support any student taking steps to reassign their sex. We will do our utmost to accommodate these students both socially and practically on their journey to reassignment.

Legislation relating to sex and relationships education (SRE) are contained within the Education Act (1996) and the Learning and Skills Act (2000). The requirements are that:

*It is compulsory for all maintained schools to teach some parts of **sex education** i.e. the biological aspects of puberty, reproduction and the spread of viruses. These topics are statutory parts of the National Curriculum Science which must be taught to all pupils of primary and secondary age.*

There is also a separate requirement for secondary schools to teach about HIV and AIDS and sexually transmitted infections.

*The broader topic of **sex and relationships education** (SRE) is currently not compulsory but is contained within non statutory PSHE education within the National Curriculum and is strongly recommended within Government SRE Guidance (2000). School governors are in law expected to give 'due regard' to this guidance.*

Both primary and secondary schools are legally obliged to have an up-to-date SRE policy that describes the content and organisation of SRE taught outside the Science Curriculum.

Sex education is delivered through the tutorial programme and, in a limited way, as an adjunct to studies in other curriculum areas.

Within the tutorial programme we feel that the school has a duty to promote the safety and well-being of all children and young people in their care, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans.

In Y7 and Y8 pupils receive talks from on menstruation and emotional changes. In tutorials over the course of KS3 students discuss, investigate and are guided through the following topics; puberty – the mental and physical effects of puberty; relationships/friendships – the nature of friendships - respect, manage emotions, build and maintain relationships; body image – influence of the media, physical and emotional implications; self-esteem – peer pressure, how it contributes to overall wellbeing, strategies for raising self-esteem; marriage and family life – respect within all types of relationship and why marriage can be a positive route for all.

Last reviewed January 2020

Next date due to be reviewed by the Governors – March 2022



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In Years 9,10 and11 pupils have tutorial lessons focusing on sexual health, sexual orientation and sexual responsibility, relationships and respecting the sexuality of others. This will also include addressing issues of sexual harassment and homophobic, biphobic or transphobic bullying (as highlighted in the anti-bullying policy).

Within the Science Department the biology of human reproduction is taught to Y7, it is also visited in context in KS4. Ethical issues related to sex education are also addressed in GCSE RS.

Staff approach the teaching of these issues in a manner which is sensitive and appropriate to the pupils' stage of development. Pupils will be encouraged to have due regard to moral considerations, to respect the feelings and views of other people and to be aware of the value and importance of personal and family relationships.

It is not considered appropriate for staff to give individual pupils advice on matters relating to sexual behaviour and in particular contraception. If approached, staff will encourage a pupil to seek advice from his/her parents or, if appropriate, the relevant health service professional (eg pupil's GP). The tutorial scheme highlights the places/agencies that students can approach for advice and counselling.

The Headteacher, on behalf of the governing body, reviews this policy and monitors its implementation alongside tutors and the Heads of Lower, Middle and Upper School. Parents should contact Mr Thompson (Headteacher) or the Head of Lower/Middle/Upper School if they have any concerns or wish to withdraw their child from any part of the sex education programme.

