



Sponsored by Academy Transformation Trust

Sex & Relationships Education Policy

Adopted	June 2014
Date of Review	May 2016

*Inspire,
Aspire,
Achieve!*

This policy is designed to ensure that this Academy complies with the sex education provisions of the Learning and Skills Act 2000. The Governors, in consultation with the Principal, will ensure that the provision of sex and relationship education in this Academy is carried out in such a way that it encourages students to give due consideration to morality and the values of family life.

The Academy programme for sex and relationships education has been developed after full consultation with the parents of those students who were registered with the Academy at the time. The policy is available for scrutiny by new parents on request.

The Aims of the Policy

The aim of the sex and relationships education policy is to:

- Endorse the entitlement of all students in this Academy to sex and relationships education
- Confirm the coverage and scope of sex and relationships education in this Academy
- Ensure that appropriate training is available for the staff that will deliver the programme of sex and relationships education in this Academy
- Confirm the Academy's policy of consulting with parents on the content and delivery of the sex and relationships education programme in this Academy
- Specify the rights of parents to withdraw their children from all or part of sex and relationships education

Procedure

Entitlement

All students in this Academy will be entitled to sex and relationships education. This Academy will provide a coherent, well-balanced programme of sex and relationships education that:

- Reflects the age and maturity of the students
- Meets the particular needs of both boys and girls

Coverage & Scope of Sex & Relationship Education

Sex and relationships education at this Academy will include learning about physical, moral and emotional development.

In learning about sex, sexuality and sexual health, the Academy will aim to ensure that students develop an understanding of the importance of marriage and civil partnership for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. As part of this, we work with our Academy health improvement team to deliver a curriculum that is relevant and well informed. The team are also involved in the delivery of certain aspects of the curriculum in relation to sexual health.

The sex and relationships programme taught in this Academy will cover three main elements:

- Attitudes and values
- Personal and social skills
- Knowledge and understanding

Attitudes & Values

Attitudes and values will include:

- Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
- Learning the value of family life, marriage, civil partnership and stable loving relationships for the nurture of children
- Learning the value of respect, love and care
- Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas
- Developing critical thinking as part of decision making

Personal & Social Skills

Personal and social skills will include:

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others
- Learning to make choices based on understanding of differences and with an absence of prejudice
- Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- Managing conflict
- Learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

Knowledge & Understanding

Knowledge and understanding will include:

- Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages
- Understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- Learning about contraception and the range of local and national health advice, contraception and support services (including education about HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases)
- Learning the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained from such delay
- The avoidance of unplanned pregnancy

Curriculum Delivery

All teachers will be expected to make some contribution to the programme of sex and relationships education offered in this Academy owing to the fact that their pastoral role will make them natural recipients of students' questions. Similarly support staff concerned with student welfare may be involved through the conversations they have with the students they support.

We will always endeavour to ensure that the main sex and relationships education programme will be delivered by teachers with specialist subject knowledge supported by specialist external staff drawn from the local area health services where appropriate.

The Governors will ensure that all members of staff receive regular training to the level of expertise appropriate to their role in the delivery and support of the sex and relationships education programme.

The delivery of the programme will also be dependent on the wider context provided through personal, social and health education and links to other National Curriculum areas, e.g. Science.

Parents' Right of Withdrawal

Parents will have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of any sex and relationships education provided (Appendix 1).

Where parents choose to exercise this right the Academy will undertake to ensure that they are informed as to when sex and relationships education is being provided for other students in their children's classes or year groups and what aspects are being covered. This is so that they can be prepared for the questions that their children may ask as a result of informal peer group discussion outside the classroom. In addition, parents who choose to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationships education provided, will be invited in to the Academy to meet with the subject leader to view the resources and materials used in the delivery of the curriculum.

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from the teaching of the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction that are included in the National Curriculum for Science.

Monitoring & Review

Parents are made aware of the policy through the Parent Guide Handbook (Appendix 1) and website.

Parents and students' views are captured by annual surveys and letters written in to the Academy.

APPENDIX 1

The following extract is from the Parent Guide Handbook which is given to every student who enrolls in this Academy. Parents are requested to sign a return form at the back of the Parent Guide to confirm they have read and accept the guidelines.

Sex and Relationships Education

Under the terms of the Education Act of 1996 The Hathaway Academy is required to provide Sex and Relationships Education for all students, including education about HIV, AIDS and STIs. Our programme, which is included as part of our PSHE programme, aims to present facts relating to puberty, development and relationships in a balanced, objective and sensitive manner, set within a clear framework of values and an awareness of the laws on sexual behaviour. Students are encouraged to appreciate the value of stable family life, marriage and the responsibilities of parenthood. They are asked to consider the importance of self-restraint, respect for themselves and others, accepting responsibility and being sensitive to the needs of others.

The 1996 Education Act also gives you, the parent, the right to withdraw your child from Sex and Relationships Education if you so wish. If you decide to withdraw your child from SRE you will need to write to the Principal.