



SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Pupils are given comprehensive scientific and medical information in a moral framework. The Sex Education Programme emphasises the need for a responsible attitude towards sexual relationships, draws attention to emotional implications, and raises moral issues. Pupils are encouraged to consider their religious tradition and to respect the traditions of others.

Parents are entitled to withdraw pupils from sex education classes. The Housemaster/Housemistress will discuss the matter fully if such a request is made.

In **Science**, the Thirds cover the topic Reproduction and Adolescence. This includes a study of how physical and emotional changes occur throughout puberty and adolescence. The course content also encourages a responsible approach to sexual relationships and parenthood, whilst studying developments from conception to birth.

In **PSE**, the topic of puberty is covered. A female Biology teacher talks to girls in the Thirds about menstruation. The boys have a lesson with a male Biology teacher talking about body changes in adolescent males.

In the Removes (year 8) there is a talk on sexual harassment and the need for respect and appropriate boundaries.

A qualified nurse, experienced in giving presentations in schools, talks to Lower Fourth pupils about sexual relationships, sexually transmitted infections and contraception and consent.

Gender identity is covered in the U4. There is also a talk on managing romantic relationships including break ups.

The issues surrounding sexual relationships and consent is re-visited in the L6 when the same nurse returns to speak to the students.

In **Religious Education**, commitment, including in the context of sexual relationships, and marriage are covered in the Rems. Thirds and Removes study the rites of passage in

major world religions. Attitudes and beliefs surrounding birth and marriage are examined.

Sexual relationships are discussed in the Lower Fourth. The beliefs of the major world religions are taken as a starting point and attention is drawn to emotional and moral implications of sexual relationships. and religious teachings on sexual relationships and marriage.

The RS GCSE specification covers abortion.

With regard to their age and level of maturity pupils may discuss controversial and sensitive topics in class. Examples include homosexuality, abortion, fertility treatment, adoption, parenting, and single parenthood.

The School Nurse is available to give advice and information, in confidence, to individual pupils on contraception and sexual health matters. Teachers do not give advice to individual pupils on contraception or sexual health.

If you would like further information, or wish to discuss Sex Education provision, please contact Mrs Channer, Assistant Head (Pastoral).