

CARTERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Gateway to excellence



Carterton Community College

Policy Cover Sheet

Policy	Sex and Relationships Education Policy <i>(Persons Responsible – Amanda Carter & Emma Ackerman)</i>
Adopted at (FGB/Committee)	FGB Meeting
Signed by Chair of FGB / Committee	<i>Alne Vanhats Hill</i>
Signed by EHT or HS	<i>OJ Booth</i>
Date	20 January 2016
Date of Next Review	Annually, FGB January 2017



Purpose and framework of the policy

At Carterton Community College we are committed to our students' academic, cultural, social, emotional and moral development and to preparing them for the responsibilities and experiences of adult life. An important part of this development and preparation is the provision of sex and relationships education (SRE).

The Education Act 1996 requires all schools to have an up-to-date SRE policy that "encourages students to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life". Secondary schools are required to provide an SRE programme, which includes (as a minimum) information about STI's and HIV/AIDS. DfEE116/2000 states that "appropriate and responsible sex education is an important element in the work of schools in preparing pupils for adult life".

The Governing Body is responsible for the content of this SRE policy which has been formulated with the advice of the Assistant Headteacher who has responsibility for the delivery of SRE at Carterton Community College.

As young people move toward independence, it is hoped that good SRE in the context of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) will help to raise self-esteem and contribute to the four strands of the framework provided by the National Curriculum 2000. These are: -

- Developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities.
- Preparing to play an active role as citizens.
- Developing a healthy, safer lifestyle.
- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people.

These four strands also directly link and support the 'Be Healthy' outcomes of Every Child Matters:

- Physically Healthy
- Mentally and Emotionally Healthy
- Sexually Healthy
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Choose not to Take Illegal Drugs

At Carterton Community College we endeavour to work with parents to support their role in the provision of good SRE for their children. This policy is therefore always available for parents to look at on request.

Under Section 405 of the Education Act of 1996, parents have the right to withdraw their child from the Sexual Education part of the SRE programme if they wish *except* from those elements that form part of the National Curriculum i.e. Science.



SRE within the curriculum

Overall responsibility for the organisation of SRE within the PSHE curriculum lies with the PSHE Co-ordinator, working closely with the Heads of House/Year, their Tutor Teams and with the Senior Management Team. SRE is delivered to tutor groups as an integral part of their PSHE programme. A variety of teaching strategies are used to encourage discussion and learning as recommended in DfEE 116/2000.

Aims:

See the four strands of our holistic approach to PSHE as detailed above.

Objectives:

We see SRE as helping to prepare young people for an adult life in which they can:

- Develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour;
- Be aware of their sexuality and understand and respect all human sexuality;
- Have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others and to respect individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationships they want;
- Understand the arguments for delaying sexual activity;
- Understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within sexual and other social relationships;
- Communicate effectively;
- Have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves and, where they have one, their partner from unintended or unwanted conceptions and from sexually transmitted infections including HIV;
- Understand the reasons for not having unprotected sex;
- Avoid being exploited or exploiting others;
- Avoid being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex;
- Access confidential sexual health advice, support and, if necessary, treatment;
- Know how the law applies to sexual relationships.

To do this, we aim to provide a programme of progressive, differentiated learning, providing clear information that meets the needs of all students at the College, whatever their developing sexuality:

- An atmosphere which encourages questions and the discussion of sensitive matters, which counters myths, prejudice and discrimination and which promotes tolerance and respect.
- An understanding of the importance of loving relationships between consenting partners, the value of family life, the implications of parenthood and the needs of the very young.



- An atmosphere of tolerance and understanding that recognises the cultural and religious influences on individual sexuality and promotes respect for them.

Controversial issues are dealt with sensitively and in a non-judgemental way, ensuring that the young person's needs are of prime importance. As stated in the DfEE 116/2000 point 2.1, we strive to ensure that, as far as possible, the "personal beliefs and attitudes of staff will not influence the teaching of sex and relationship education". We do believe, however, that SRE is about understanding the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect and care. It is about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

It is **not** about the promotion of any particular sexual orientation or sexual activity. Research has shown that good, comprehensive SRE does not make young people more likely to enter into sexual activity. Indeed, it can help them learn the reasons for and the benefits to be gained from delaying such activity.

Equal Opportunities

Carterton Community College will ensure that young people with SEN and learning difficulties are properly included in SRE and that their individual needs are appropriately met. These students will not be withdrawn from PSHE.

Use of visitors

Although Carterton Community College's staff remain primarily responsible for the delivery of SRE, input from visitors to this part of the curriculum is encouraged. These will include health professionals, youth workers and other professionals we feel can complement our programme. These visitors are made aware of the School's policy and the PSHE programme. They work closely with us to provide appropriate SRE.

School Health Nurse Provision

Our school health nurse, Beverley Campion, is a qualified nurse with further specialist training in the health needs of school age children. She offers help and advice on a range of health related issues such as diet and healthy eating, bullying, stopping smoking, sexual health and contraception, special needs and emotional and behavioural problems.

She also runs drop-in clinics and works with other healthcare professionals. The School Nurses are responsible for delivering immunisation programmes in schools. They also work alongside teachers in the classroom and contribute to the schools' Personal, Social and Health Education, and Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) programmes. They offer training and support to school staff so that they can help children and young people who may need medication during the school day

Evaluation and Monitoring



The PSHE coordinator ensures that both staff delivering the programme and students evaluate the SRE programme each year.

These evaluations are considered for future planning of the programme.

The PSHE programme is constantly under review and is regularly updated to ensure current issues and concerns raised by the staff and students are included. This process allows whole School ownership of the programme.

Documents for further reading

DfEE 116/2000

National Curriculum 2000 QCA

NHSS Sex and Relationship Education Department of Health

Ofsted Sex and Relationships HMI 433