

Sex & Relationships Education Policy

St James Senior Boys' School

Aims of the Policy

The principal aim of the Sex & Relationships Education Policy is to:

- Fully inform the whole school community, especially the parental body, of the approach adopted at St James Senior Boys to sex and relationship education.

Background to the Policy

The philosophical underpinning of the education offered at St James Senior Boys is based on the idea of Unity and Oneness. See Aims & Ethos Policy, Curriculum Policy, PSHE policy.

The twin pillars of responsibility and respect for each individual are essential to the fulfilment of this philosophical approach to education in general, and to our approach to sexual behaviour and relationships in particular.

Our Approach

Our approach to sex and relationship education seeks to inform the pupil at the spiritual, emotional, mental and physical levels.

Sex education begins in Yr 8 with an outline of puberty, the basic male and female biological distinctions and functions, as well as pregnancy and birth. This is covered during Biology lessons.

In Yr 9, the pupils are introduced to the responsibilities and respect required in all relationships, including sexual relationships. The spiritual, emotional and mental impacts of sexual activity on the partners are considered. The concept of marriage is fully discussed, both traditional and non-traditional forms. This is covered during philosophy lessons with the Headmaster. An external speaker is also brought in to discuss sexual relationships and the issues surrounding sexting etc.

In Yr 10, there are discussions on sex and relationships as part of the PSHE program, delivered by the Form Teacher.

In Yr 11, an external speaker is again brought in. This has a focus on safe sex, disease and responsibility. The talk has an emphasis on 'moving to 6th Form & College'.

In Yrs 12 & 13, the need for sexual responsibility at university is underlined. The material covered in Yrs 9 & 10 is re-presented in light of the pupils' own physical, mental and emotional maturity. This is again delivered by an external speaker.

Delivery of the Material

In Yr 8, the basic physiology is presented, as part of the pupils’ Biology course, by their Science teacher.

In Yr 9, Philosophy lessons are used to present the spiritual, emotional and mental dimensions of relationships. An external speaker is also brought in to widen the discussion areas.

In Y10, material is delivered as part of the PSHE course by the Form Teacher.

Yr11, Yr 12 & Yr 13, visiting speakers deliver the material relating to sexually transmitted diseases, birth control and abortion.

Counselling

The school employs the services of a professional counsellor and opportunities are provided for any pupil to raise sensitive and delicate issues relating to sexual behaviour or relationships. Pupils are either referred by the Form Teacher to the DSL or approach the DSL directly. The pupil can also self-refer via a ‘drop in’ session with the counsellor if they wish to keep the matter more confidential.

Non-Judgemental

Pupils are encouraged not to judge or criticise individuals expressing different sexual preferences to their own. The basis of all healthy relationships is the ability to see beyond differences to the essence of yourself in the other person. This is in line with the Philosophy of Unity or Oneness.

Parental Involvement

It is an aspect of this policy that the parental body should be invited to hear about aspects of the Sex and Relationships policy. At present this is via the means of a ‘Headmasters Breakfast Meeting’, where the outside speaker is organised to speak to the parents.

Policy Written by: James Johnson

Reviewed by: Headmaster and SMT

.....

Approved by:

.....

Date: