



WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS

POLICY STATEMENTS

SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

Rationale and Ethos

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is a key strand of the school's comprehensive programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education.

We define SRE as lifelong learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sexuality, sex and sexual health. We believe that SRE is important for our pupils and our school due to its crucial role in preparing young people for their lives now and in the future as adults and parents. In SRE learning about the physical aspects of sex is complemented by learning about family life, healthy relationships and the exercise of personal responsibility towards other individuals and the broader community.

Our aims for SRE fall in line with the overarching aims of the school as a whole:

We aim to:

- help pupils achieve their individual potential by aiding their development of the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about their health, wellbeing and relationships.
- create a happy, safe and caring environment in which pupils learn.
- provide a broad and balanced curriculum that will prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.
- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school.

The intended outcomes of our programme are that pupils will

- Know and understand the emotional and physical changes that occur during puberty.
- Understand they have the right and responsibility to make informed decisions relating to their own sexuality, sexual health and relationships.
- Learn the value of family life, marriage and stable, loving relationships
- Understand human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships
- Be given accurate and up-to-date information on reproduction, including the facts and choices around pregnancy and assisted contraception
- Be given clear and impartial scientific information on the full range of contraceptive choices, sexual health and sexually transmitted infections.
- Understand the protected characteristics and be respectful of a wide range of views. For example, SRE will be fully inclusive and relevant to those who identify as LGBTQ+.
- Understand that the media presents mixed messages including issues around mental health, body image and pornography.
- Understand the meaning of consent and have the skills to enable its effective use. The emphasis will be on being able to actively communicate and recognise consent from others.
- Understand the benefit to physical and mental health of positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships
- Learn the reasons for delaying sexual activity, and the benefits to be gained by such a delay
- Develop the skills of decision making, risk analysis, self-esteem, confidence, communication, resilience and tolerance.
- Understand their rights such as how to access confidential advice and health services within the boundaries of safeguarding
- Understand the law in relation to sexual activity, sexual consent, forced marriage, FGM and youth produced sexual imagery.

Legislation (statutory regulations and guidance)

Current regulations and guidance from the Department for Education state that all secondary schools must deliver SRE across Key Stages 3 and 4. Our Sex and Relationships policy follows this statutory guidance which was published in 2019, but the delivery of the programme is regularly evaluated to ensure it complies with updates to the statutory guidance, as well as the changing needs of our students.



WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS

POLICY STATEMENTS

SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

This SRE policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development
- PSHE Policy
- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- Equality Policy
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Documents that informed the school's SRE policy include:

- Education Act (1996)
- Equality Act (2010)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024)
- SEND code of practice (2020)

Curriculum Design

Our SRE programme is an integral part of our whole school PSHE education provision forming one of the three main pillars of PSHE education (Health and Wellbeing, Sex and Relationships Education and The World We Live In).

Our SRE curriculum follows the best practice curriculum laid out by the PSHE Association and as such we have ensured it is inclusive and appropriate to the needs of all pupils at all ages and stages of education. The information covered is discussed within a framework that respects all religious, cultural and moral viewpoints and as such is inclusive in terms of gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, culture, age and religion or belief. Lessons are structured in such a way that pupils' prior understanding is assessed at the beginning of each session to ensure that lessons meet each pupil's learning needs. The development of understanding is reviewed at the end of the lesson, with this information being used formatively to shape the course going forward.

The nature of work undertaken must be appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils. As pupils mature and develop at different rates, the SRE curriculum is a 'spiral system' in as much as key concepts are revisited several times throughout the programme. This allows for reinforcement as well as the differentiated stages of pupil maturity.

Learning about SRE in PSHE Education lessons complements learning in Biology and Science lessons for example:

- The human reproductive system, menstrual cycle, fertilisation and the role of the placenta.
- How the foetus develops in the uterus.
- The physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence

We ensure a safe learning environment by agreeing ground rules at the beginning of the set of lessons, by giving pupils frequent opportunities to raise anonymous questions and by practising 'distancing' techniques in lessons whereby we agree that discussions held do not take a personal nature. This is inline with the PSHE Association Best Practice for teaching and learning in SRE lessons.

In Years 7-11 students complete 6 rotations focussing on different areas of the PSHE curriculum. SRE is embedded within this context. During Years 12 and 13 SRE forms part of students' Personal Development Programme. These lessons are complemented across all year groups by our Form Group PSHE programme and the curriculum is further enriched by outside speakers from reputable organisations such as Wirral Community Trust and the Paul Lavelle Foundation.



WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS

POLICY STATEMENTS

SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

An overview of the learning in each year group can be found in appendix A.

Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

Lessons are structured in a way that students' baseline learning is assessed at the beginning of each lesson. They are given an opportunity to reflect on this learning show the development of their understanding at the end of each session. This model of assessment is deemed best practice in PSHE Education by the PSHE Association.

Pupil voice is used to ensure the needs of pupils are adequately met. The feedback given is used to inform teaching and learning in the subject.

The Head of PSHE reviews the current provision of content annually against the PSHE Association's Programme of Study which takes into account the government's statutory requirements.

Safeguarding

SRE in and of itself plays a vital part in meeting safeguarding obligations. It is a preventative programme where pupils learn about safety and risks in relationships

Teachers are aware that effective SRE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. In this case, the teacher will follow the school's safeguarding procedures.

Engaging Stakeholders

This policy is available to parents on the school website.

WGSB recognise that parents and/ or guardians are key people in teaching their children about relationships and sex. We work in partnership with parents, guardians and carers to support them in preparing their children for happy and healthy relationships in adult life.

The parental right to withdraw their child from Sex Education (SE) that is not part of the Science Curriculum:

- Should any parent wish to withdraw their child from SE as part of PSHE they should make their wishes known to the Headmaster in writing.
- We would then discuss the nature of the concerns with the parent with the aim to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum. We would discuss the benefits of receiving SRE education and any detrimental effect withdrawal from this section of the curriculum could have on the pupil, for example receiving inaccurate information from their peers.
- We offer the parents access to appropriate information and resources.
- If the pupils should wish to receive SE within the three terms before they turn 16, under statutory guidelines we must provide this.
- If a pupil is withdrawn from SE the school will ensure they receive purposeful education during that period of withdrawal.
- Please note, there is no right to withdraw from the Relationships element of SRE as the government believes this education is important for all (for example family, friendships, safety).



WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS
POLICY STATEMENTS
SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

Appendix A: Curriculum content

This Sex and Relationships curriculum is complemented by pupils' wider learning in PSHE, for example their rotations on Anti-Bullying, Diversity, Communication and Families. For further information please see the PSHE policy.

Year 7 Building Relationships and Health and Puberty

What makes a healthy relationship
Disclosing Abuse
Introducing Consent
Coping with change, loss and bereavement
Overcoming conflict and finding forgiveness
FGM
Puberty

Year 8 Identity and Diversity and Intimate Relationships

Equality and Diversity
Sexuality and Gender Identity
Recognising and Preventing Discrimination
Values and Constructive Disagreements
Diverse and Supportive Communities
Relationship Values
Influences on Relationship Expectations
Consent – avoiding assumptions
An introduction to contraception
What is commitment?

Year 9 Families and Relationships and Intimate Relationships

Understanding change in relationships
Long term commitments
Relationships and conflict
Family life, parenting and caring
Sex and relationships in the media
Respectful relationship behaviours
Freedom and the capacity to consent
Sexual health
Contraception
Feelings about sharing nudes

Year 10 Healthy Relationships



WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS
POLICY STATEMENTS
SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

The role of intimacy and pleasure
The impact of pornography
Pressure, persuasion and coercion
Understanding pregnancy
The impact of relationships

Year 11 Communication in relationships, Families, Intimate relationships

Navigating conflict in relationships
Taking others' perspectives
Making choices about pregnancy and parenting
Rights and responsibilities marriage and civil partnership
Sexual Health: Preventing and treating sexually transmitted infections
Understanding consent and intimacy online and offline

Sixth Form (part of the Personal Development Programme)

Consent: communication in relationships
Consent: Responsibilities and Consequences
Consent: Unwanted and inappropriate and illegal behaviour
Making choices about your sexual health
Dealing with break ups