



**Yardleys**  
**School**  
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

## SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Adopted by Governors:

Signed: .....

Date: .....

This policy is reviewed annually by the Curriculum & Standards committee

Review date: .....

## POLICY INFORMATION

Date of last review	April 2020	Review period	Two years
Date ratified by governors		Governors' committee responsible	C&S
Policy owner	Laura Yates	SLT member responsible	Laura Yates
Date of next review	May 2024		

## Reviews/revisions

Review date	Changes made	By whom
May 2022	<p>Basic principles – under 'be ready' line added on policy being regularly reviewed in line with national changes</p> <p>Sex &amp; relationship education is taught through – line added to state not an exhaustive list, words 'held during' added to line on assemblies and form time pastoral activities</p> <p>The school believes that – bullet point 6 homosexuality updated to LGBTQ+</p> <p>Parental consultation – 'sexual health' added in for areas that child cannot be removed from</p> <p>Child protection – addition of 'if disclosures made' to bullet point on staff not being able to promise confidentiality</p>	Laura Yates

## Dates of linked staff training (if applicable)

Date	Course title	Led by

## **EQUALITY AND GDPR**

All Yardleys' policies should be read in conjunction with our Equal Opportunities and GDPR policies.

### **Statement of principle - Equality**

We will take all possible steps to ensure that this policy does not discriminate, either directly or indirectly against any individual or group of individuals. When compiling, monitoring and reviewing the policy we will consider the likely impact on the promotion of all aspects of equality as described in the Equality Act 2010.

### **Statement of principle - GDPR**

Yardleys School recognises the serious issues that can occur as a consequence in failing to protect an individual adult's or child's personal and sensitive data. These include emotional distress, physical safety, child protection, loss of assets, fraud and other criminal acts.

Yardleys School is therefore committed to the protection of all personal and sensitive data for which it holds responsibility as the Data Controller and the handling of such data in line with the data protection principles and the Data Protection Act (DPA)/GDPR.

## Basic Principles:

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- Be Ready – The school policy in this area meets the 2020 SRE statutory framework and is regularly reviewed in line with any national changes.
- Be Respectful - Successful Sex & Relationship Education forms part of pastoral care at Yardleys and ensure the development of a respectful whole child.
- Be Responsible - Sex & Relationship Education is not just a topic for adolescence or for crisis intervention, it is a developmental process essential for all students.

## Aims and objectives of Sex & Relationship Education (SRE) at Yardleys:

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The aim of SRE is to provide young people with age-appropriate information and to explore attitudes and values surrounding different types of relationships. With the aim of developing skills in order to empower them to make positive decisions about their mental health, physical health and sexual health.

The objectives of Sex & Relationship Education are:

1. To combat ignorance and to increase understanding
2. To reduce guilt and anxiety
3. To promote responsible and safe behaviour
4. To combat exploitation and to keep children safe
5. To provide the knowledge and information to which all pupils are entitled and facilitate communications on sexual matters
6. To clarify/reinforce existing knowledge
7. To raise pupils' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others;
8. To help pupils understand their sexual feelings and behaviour, so they can lead fulfilling and enjoyable lives;
9. To help pupils' develop skills (language, decision making, choice, assertiveness) and make the most of their abilities.
10. To provide the confidence to be participating members of society and to value themselves and others;
11. To help gain access to information and support and promote the ability to make informed decisions
12. To develop and use communication skills and assertiveness skills to cope with the influences of their peers and the media
13. To be prepared for puberty and beyond.

## The School believes that:

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1. We need to be sensitive to the different ways cultural and religious groups in the community view Sex & Relationship Education
2. Wherever possible, Sex & Relationship Education should be taught in mixed groups
3. Children should be taught an appropriate vocabulary about sexual matters
4. STI's and other health issues should form an important part of our work
5. Staff should be aware of their legal position with regard to offering pupils advice and responding to questions raised by pupils. Staff should be trained regularly and are aware of their responsibility to report any safeguarding concerns to the DSL
6. Teaching about LGBTQ+ in a secure climate can help dispel myths, clarify attitudes and value & support young people who may be LGBTQ+

7. Individual Pupils learning needs should be taken in to account with reasonable adjustment being made where necessary

### **Sex & Relationship Education is taught through:**

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- The Personal Development Curriculum
- RE
- A variety of curriculum areas such as English and Science
- Pastoral activities held during assemblies and form time
- Outside agencies and specialists
- A positive school ethos and modelled through healthy relationships between pupils and staff

This list is not exhaustive and other events and activities are planned and organised separately throughout the year depending on the needs of our school cohort.

### **Sex & Relationship Education at Yardleys takes into account:**

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- Pupils' needs
- Parental wishes
- Governors' wishes
- Teachers' expertise and confidence
- Knowledge of child development theories
- Current research, trends or information from other professional agencies e.g. social media, sexting, etc.
- Pupils perceptions, language and feelings

### **Parental Consultation:**

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- The school includes information on sex and relationship education on the VLE and full details are available on request.
- The school informs parents when aspects of the sex and relationship programme are taught through the VLE and will provide opportunities for parents to view the resources being used if requested.

We acknowledge the right of parents to withdraw their children from certain aspects of the schools Sex & Relationship Education programme in accordance with the law. This request must formally come from the child's parent/guardian and be given to the headteacher. Upon receiving the request the headteacher will arrange a meeting with the parent/guardian explaining the resources that were to be used and the intent of the content to ensure parents/guardians are fully aware of the impact it may have withdrawing their child. In accordance with the law, the child may only be removed for the learning objectives relating to sex education and will remain for all aspects relating to relationships and sexual health.

Full details regarding the Personal Development Curriculum and the law as it relates to Sex & Relationship Education are available from the school.

### **Pupils rights to opt in:**

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- If a pupil has been removed from sex education at the request of their parent/guardian, the pupil has the right to opt back in from September 2020.
- The pupil has the right to opt back in three terms before they turn 16 years old. The pupil must request to opt back in with their HOY who will inform the headteacher. Parents/guardians do not have to be informed that their child has opted back into the program, but it will be encouraged for the child to tell their parents/guardian the choice they have made.

### **Child Protection / Confidentiality:**

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- Teachers are aware that effective sex and relationship education, which brings an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a relationship, may lead to disclosure of a child protection issue.
- The staff member will inform the DSL in line with the Safeguarding procedures for child protection.
- A member of staff cannot promise confidentiality if disclosures are made.