



Yardleys
School
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

Adopted by Trustees:

Signed:

Date:

This policy is reviewed annually by the Curriculum & Standards committee

Review date:

POLICY INFORMATION

Date of last review	May 2026	Review period	Annually
Date ratified by governors	July 2026	Governors' committee responsible	C&S
Policy owner	Edmund Lawrence	SLT member responsible	Edmund Lawrence
Date of next review	May 2027		

Reviews/revisions

Review date	Changes made	By whom
May 2022	Basic principles – under 'be ready' line added on policy being regularly reviewed in line with national changes Sex & 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 The school believes that – bullet point 6 homosexuality updated to LGBTQ+ Parental consultation – 'sexual health' added in for areas that child cannot be removed from Child protection – addition of 'if disclosures made' to bullet point on staff not being able to promise confidentiality	Laura Yates
May 2023	Guided reading was added to the section on where SRE is taught at Yardleys School. A clearer outline for the withdrawal procedure from sex education has been added to the parental consultation section.	Laura Yates
May 2024	'Statutory guidance' added to the areas that Yardleys School takes into account when planning the curriculum. Additional detail has been added to the 'Child protection' section.	Laura Yates
May 2025	Policy owner updated to Ed Lawrence	Edmund Lawrence
May 2026	Reference to new email address for PD queries	Edmund Lawrence

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.

Statement of principle – Yardleys Way

Yardleys School treats everyone equally and we value everyone the same irrespective of age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy or maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation.

Basic Principles:



- 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:

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:

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 pupil's learning needs should be taken in to account with reasonable adjustment being made where necessary

Sex & Relationship Education is taught through:

- The Personal Development Curriculum
- Guided reading
- 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
- The use of a PD Email link through VLE for parents and students to seek clarification and ask questions.

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.

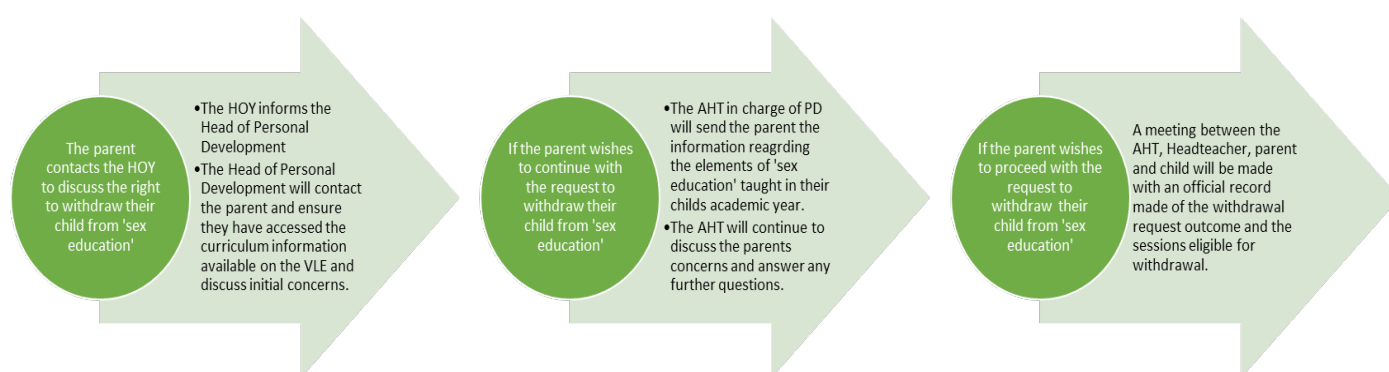
Sex & Relationship Education at Yardleys takes into account:

- Statutory guidance
- 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:

- 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. The withdrawal procedure here at Yardleys School, is as follows:



This process is necessary 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:

- 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:

- 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.
- If a disclosure is made or a concern raised, 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.