



## Sex and Relationship Education Policy

### **Introduction:**

The Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) Policy has been developed in accordance with the current requirements of the law, taking into account the Children's Act 1989 and 2004 and the Education Act 1993 and 2002.

### **Aims:**

SRE is an educational entitlement for all children and young people. It involves learning about physical, moral and emotional development and sex, sexuality and sexual health. It should enhance the self-worth and confidence of each individual and encourage mutually respectful relationships and empathy for others. It comprises three main elements:

### **Attitudes and Values:**

- Recognition of the value of family life;
- Promotion of the benefits of stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
- Respect for self and others;
- Exploration of moral dilemmas;
- Development of critical thinking.

### **Personal and Social Skills:**

- Self-confidence, self-esteem and empathy for others;
- Managing emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
- Skills of choice to manage responsibility.

### **Knowledge and understanding:**

- Emotions and relationships;
- Physical development;
- Sexuality, reproduction, sexual health;
- Information on local and national contraception and sexual health services;
- Reasons for delaying sexual activity;
- The avoidance of unplanned pregnancy;
- Keeping safe from sexually transmitted infections (STI's).

RDUTC provides a setting in which students can be offered appropriate teaching about SRE. The purpose of SRE is to assist young people to prepare for adult life by supporting them through their physical, emotional and moral development and helping them to understand themselves, respect others and form and sustain healthy relationships. Our SRE policies is inclusive and ensures that all students:

- Receive their sex education in the wider context of relationships;
- Are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life;
- Develop positive attitudes to sexuality.

SRE at RDUTC is taught across all year groups as part of the Personal Development curriculum. Content is also delivered as part of the Key Stage 4 Science curriculum. Students receive additional age-appropriate SRE sessions delivered by outside agencies during Personal Development sessions in the Autumn and Summer Terms. The programme is designed to support and complement the role of parents/carers who have the prime responsibility in this sensitive area. The content is taught within the moral framework and ethos of RDUTC.

### **Partnership with Parents / Carers**

Most of a student's informal sex and relationship education occurs within the family. RDUTCs programme compliments and builds on this.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the SRE programme that is not included in the Programme of Study for the Science National Curriculum. ***Any parent/carer wishing to withdraw a child from the programme should inform the Principal in writing of their decision.*** Students who are withdrawn will be accommodated separately and will be set appropriate, alternative work to complete.

### **Summary of Programme Content**

Students are encouraged to recognise the responsibilities of parenthood and to respect themselves and others. They are educated in the importance of behaving responsibly and respectfully in sexual matters. Moral and ethical issues are presented and discussed. Students also learn about:

- contraception and its importance in guarding against unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections;
- sexually transmitted infections including HIV and AIDS and the importance of practising safe sex;
- the legal implications of sexual behaviour;
- people and places they can go to for appropriate help or advice.

### **Information on Contraception**

The teaching about contraception is carried out in a frank and open manner with students being given non-biased information about various forms of contraception. RDUTC employees do not give advice to individuals – advice can only be given through an appropriate external agency.

### **Confidentiality and Child Protection**

All RDUTC employees and external visitors who are involved in the delivery of our SRE programme are given a copy of this policy and our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. The Vice Principal Personal Development, Behaviour and Well-being also meets with them to ensure they understand the protocols and expectations regarding responding to issues, including those that may relate to Child Protection Matters. All staff should ensure that students understand that they are not in a position to guarantee confidentiality.

### **Equal Opportunities**

SRE is delivered equally to both genders, normally in mixed classes.

RDUTC has a commitment to ensure that the SRE programme is relevant to all students and is taught in a way that is age and stage appropriate.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The policy will be reviewed by the Governing Board as per the published policy review cycle.

**Approved by The Governing Board:**

**Signed:**



**Chair of The Governing Board**

**Date: July 2019**

**Review date: July 2020**