

# SUMMERHILL SCHOOL STAFF INFORMATION FILE

## SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

### SEX EDUCATION POLICY

The person responsible for this policy is Julie Robinson.

### AIMS

The Summerhill School believes that sex and relationships education is an educational entitlement of all students and an integral part of each student's emergence into adulthood.

We aim:

- ✓ To encourage personal responsibility in all forms of behaviour
- ✓ To encourage self esteem
- ✓ To encourage respect and consideration for others
- ✓ To provide support and information

To help students:

- ✓ Be aware of their sexuality
- ✓ Understand arguments for delayed sexual activity
- ✓ Understand reasons for having protected sex
- ✓ Understand the consequences of their actions and to behave responsibly within relationships

### CONTENT

Sex and relationships education provides knowledge and encourages acquisition of skills and attitudes which will allow students to manage their lives in a responsible and healthy way.

#### Knowledge and information

Key Stage 3

Puberty – friendship and love – family life and relationships – conception and birth – contraception – HIV/AIDS – safe sex – sex and the law – helping agencies.

Key Stage 4

Birth processes – abortion – early parenting – prejudice and stereotyping – different faiths and cultures.

#### Values and beliefs

As well as knowledge and information, students will be encouraged to consider the importance of the following values.

- ✓ Respect and valuing of themselves and others
- ✓ Understanding and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others
- ✓ Responsibility for their own actions

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## Skills and abilities

Students will be helped to develop the following skills:

- ✓ Communication including the making and keeping of relationships
- ✓ Assertiveness
- ✓ Decision-making
- ✓ Recognising and using opportunities to develop a healthy lifestyle

## ORGANISATION

Sex education is delivered through a number of subject areas – notably Science and RE – and within the enrichment programme. The key informative process is delivered through an Enrichment Day in Year 8 by a team from Brook. In Year 11 students re-visit topics in a choices and dilemmas enrichment day.

Planned aspects within the curricular areas are based on the delivery of the National Curriculum and will not be deemed to be part of the sex relationship education programme and therefore not subject to the parental right to withdraw.

Teaching approaches are varied and are designed to give students information and enable issues to be considered through discussion. Acquisition of skills is encouraged from active participation in their learning.

Students are taught in form groups – mixed ability and mixed gender – to create a climate of close informality where students can be encouraged to express views and feelings.

A wide range of resources is available and is open to inspection by parents.

Only appropriately trained and experienced staff are involved in the programme.

## COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Any complaints about the sex education curriculum should be made to the Headteacher who will report to the Governors.

Under the Education Act 1993, parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme. Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to make an appointment with the Headteacher to discuss the issues, but they are under no obligation to do so. Once a student has been withdrawn they cannot take part in later sex education without parental approval.

## MONITORING AND REVIEW

The Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral) will monitor sex relationships education. Evaluation of the programme will also involve student feedback via discussion.

The full policy will be made available to parents on request when their child enters the school.

Member of staff responsible for Sex Education: Julie Robinson

Date of policy: Revised July 2016

Date of review of policy: July 2017