

Sex and Relationship Policy

CORITANI ACADEMY



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Sex and Relationship Policy

Outlines the policy for delivering Sex and relationship education in the Academy

1 Aims

The aims of relationship and sex education (RSE) at Coritani Academy are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

Coritani Academy believes that sex and relationship education (SRE) makes an essential contribution to every student's health, wellbeing and preparation for adult life in society. Effective sex and relationship education is essential if young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. A comprehensive programme of SRE provides accurate information about the body, reproduction, sex, and sexual health. It also gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline. It is an integral part of the PSHE programme within the Academy will support students to be ready for adult life.

2 Statutory requirements

Academies do not have to follow the National Curriculum and as such, are not obliged to teach RSE.

At Coritani we believe that our students should be 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' so RSE is important to us We have regard to [guidance](#) issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the [Education Act 1996](#).

At Coritani Academy we teach RSE as set out in this policy.

3 Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Review – a member of staff or working group pulled together all relevant information including relevant national and local guidance
2. Staff consultation – all school staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy
4. Pupil consultation – we investigated what exactly pupils want from their RSE
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

4 Definition

RSE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity.

RSE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values.

RSE is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

5 Curriculum

Our curriculum is set out as per Appendix 1 but we may need to adapt as and when necessary.

We have developed the curriculum in consultation with parents, pupils and staff taking into account the needs and feelings of pupils. If pupils ask questions outside the scope of our curriculum, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so pupils are fully informed and don't seek answers online

For more information about our curriculum, see our curriculum map in Appendix 1.

6 Delivery of RSE.

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Pupils also receive stand-alone sex education sessions delivered by a trained health professional. RSE sessions will reflect the age and maturity of the students and meet the particular needs of both boys and girls.

Across all Key Stages, pupils will be supported with developing the following skills:

Attitudes and Values

- learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations.
- learning the value of family life and stable loving relationships for the nurture of children.
- learning the value of respect, love and care.
- exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas.
- developing critical thinking as part of decision making.

Personal and Social Skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively.
- developing self-respect and empathy for others.
- learning to make choices based on understanding of differences and with an absence of prejudice.
- developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made.
- managing conflict.
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

Knowledge and Understanding

- learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages.
- understanding human sexuality, reproduction, sexual health, emotions and relationships.
- learning about contraception and the range of local and national health advice, contraception and support services (including education about HIV and AIDS - and other sexually transmitted diseases).
- supporting students to make wise and informed choices regarding sexual activity.
- developing an awareness of sex and the law.
- developing an understanding of the diversity of relationships and sexuality.
- an understanding of the difference between consenting and exploitative relationships.
- understanding internet safety issues such as sexting and sharing of images.

7 Roles and responsibilities

The Academy Oversight Committee will approve the RSE policy, and hold the Principal to account for its implementation.

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory/non-science components of RSE (see section 8).

- Staff are responsible for:
 - Delivering RSE in a sensitive way
 - Modelling positive attitudes to RSE
 - Monitoring progress
 - Responding to the needs of individual pupils
 - Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory/non-science components of RSE

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSE. Staff who have concerns about teaching RSE are encouraged to discuss this with the Principal

8 Parents' right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory/non-science components of RSE.

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the principal. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The principal will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action.

Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from RSE.

9 Training

Staff are trained on the delivery of RSE as part of their induction and it is included in our continuing professional development calendar.

The Principal will also invite visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals, to provide support and training to staff teaching RSE.

Parents' Right of Withdrawal

- Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of any sex and relationship education provided.
- Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from the teaching of the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction that are included in the National Curriculum for science.

10 Monitoring arrangements

- The PSHE Co-ordinator will liaise annually with the other curriculum areas to ensure that the syllabus is being covered and that the biological and emotional elements are properly co-ordinated.
- The KS4 enrichment days will be reviewed annually and evaluated by the students and staff.
- The Senior Leadership Team will monitor the implementation of this policy through the cycle of departmental reviews.

Appendix 1

Key Stage	Content
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical and emotional changes during puberty • Management of growth and change during puberty • Relationships: friends and families, marriage, and civil partnerships • Health services • Sexual relationships: law, consent, contraception • Sex, gender, sexuality and sexual orientation • E-safety
4	During Key Stage 4, students will receive sex and relationship education through PSHE enrichment days and within other subjects in the curriculum

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