



GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

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| Policy Title: | Sex Education |
| Date of most recent review: | Jan 2018 |
| School Mission Statement: Academic excellence within a strong community of equality and respect, where potential and opportunity are realised. | |

Aims of Sex Education (SRE) at George Abbot School:

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

Definition of Sex Education (SRE) at George Abbot School:

- SRE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of students, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity
- SRE involves a combination of sharing information and exploring issues and values
- SRE is not about the promotion of sexual activity

Requirements and Practice:

- George Abbot School has full regard for the guidance issued by The Secretary of State as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996
- George Abbot School has taken into full account the guidance from the Department for Education in relation to SRE and PSE, published in March 2017
- SRE will be age appropriate and build knowledge and life-skills over time in a way that prepares students for issues they will soon face
- Sex Education (SRE) at George Abbot School is provided predominantly in Personal and Social Education and in Science and follows national guidelines
- SRE is complementary to and supportive of the role of parents and places high value on family life and long term committed relationships
- Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme, except where it may be a requirement of the National Curriculum (e.g. Science). Should they wish to do so, they should put this request in writing to the Headteacher and a copy of this letter will be placed in the student's educational record

Delivery of Sex Education (SRE) at George Abbot School:

In accordance with the Department for Education's policy statement on SRE and PSE of March 2017, SRE will focus on:

- different types of relationships, including friendships, family relationships, dealing with strangers and intimate relationships
- how to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships, including self-respect and respect for others, commitment, tolerance, boundaries and consent, and how to manage conflict, and also how to recognise unhealthy relationships
- how relationships may affect health and wellbeing, including mental health
- healthy relationships and safety online
- factual knowledge around sex, sexual health and sexuality, set firmly within the context of relationships

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

- Communication, including how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Assertiveness
- Seeking help and support when required
- Informed decision-making
- Self-respect and empathy for others
- Recognising and maximising a healthy lifestyle
- Managing conflict
- Discussion and group work

Responsibilities in relation to the George Abbot School Sex Education (SRE) policy:

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering SRE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to SRE
- Monitoring student progress
- Responding to the needs of individual students
- Making available to students information about sexual health related matters, including where to get help and advice
- Responding appropriately to the students whose parents wish to withdraw them from the non-statutory components of SRE.

Governors will regularly review this policy and hold the Headteacher to account for its implementation. Students are expected to engage fully in SRE and, when discussing issues related to SRE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

Confidentiality:

Members of staff are not legally bound to pass on information (of a non-child protection nature) that they might hear about pupils to their parents, but all efforts will be made to persuade the student to talk to their parent or carer about concerns, for example in a situation where a student under 16 years of age is thought to be in a sexual relationship or is contemplating sexual intercourse. Any action that the school takes will be in the 'best interests of the student'. (See the school's 'Guidelines on Confidentiality and Student Disclosures').

(See also policies, guidelines and procedures related to Child Protection and Confidentiality; E-Safety and ICT)