

Health, Sex and Relationships Education

PRINCIPLES

Health, sex and relationships (HSR) education is lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care for family life. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

All teaching staff at St Dunstan's College have a responsibility to encourage a dialogue with students regarding health and healthy relationships (both sexual and otherwise).

POLICY

1. The aims of HSR education at St Dunstan's College are:
 - To promote healthy lifestyles
 - To develop in our students a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others
 - To promote healthy relationships as a key factor of pupil's emotional health and wellbeing
 - To promote the significance of stable relationships (including but not limited to marriage and civil partnership) as key building blocks of the community and society
 - To educate pupils about the responsibilities involved in undertaking a sexual relationship, including discussion of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.
 - To ensure that students understand the need to foster healthy relationships online as well as in person
 - To prepare pupils for the changes that occur to their bodies, minds and emotions as a consequence of growth from childhood to adulthood
2. The HSR education programme enables pupils to develop the following 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 an understanding of difference 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
3. The College will:
- Provide students with accurate and up to date information
 - Ensure that information is given in an unbiased and non-judgemental fashion, considering the College's Equal Opportunities Policy.
 - Ensure that information given is appropriate to the age of the pupils involved, acknowledging that young people shouldn't feel pressure to engage in sexual activity
 - Support pupils with appropriate pastoral care
 - Recognise the vital role and shared responsibility of parents and guardians in this area of pupils' education
 - Provide a forum in which pupils can discuss with each other, staff and outside agencies the different aspects of health-related issues in an open and frank atmosphere
 - Provide pupils with a programme for teaching Year 5 about changing bodies and sex and relationships education
 - Arrange for suitable outside speakers for Year 2 to deliver appropriate health, sex and relationships education about parts of the body and safeguarding themselves from inappropriate physical contact
 - Arrange for suitable outside speakers for Year 6 to deliver appropriate health, sex and relationships education about changing bodies, sex and relationships education as a recap of their Year 5 studies
 - Ensure that a programme exists that delivers effectively aspects of health education in the Key Stage 3 and GCSE Science curriculum
 - Arrange for suitable outside speakers to address all Senior School students with age-appropriate sex and relationships education where appropriate
 - Use Tutor time and PSHEE lessons to address those areas of HSR education (including online relationships) that are best suited to that environment
 - Ensure a dialogue is open with parents regarding the provision of HSR education. Activities focusing on HSR will be publicised to parents via weekly bulletins.
 - Canvass the opinions of pupils regarding the effectiveness of the provision of HSR education
 - Use the VLE (Firefly) to signpost pupils towards selected reputable agencies
 - Monitor delivery of HSR education to ensure that student entitlement is met uniformly, offering INSET to staff member to help them to achieve this
 - Provide an accessible avenue for pupils to report when they receive inappropriate messages or images via digital communications
4. Protocols are in place to discussion-based lessons with pupils, acknowledging that the issues raised in HSR lessons may be sensitive:
- No one (teacher or pupil) will have to answer a personal question

- No one will be forced to take part in a discussion
- Only the correct names for body parts will be used
- Meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way
- Teachers may use their discretion in responding to questions and may say that the appropriate person to answer that question is the parent.
- Where a member of staff is concerned that a safeguarding or child protection issue is arising it is his/her responsibility to act in accordance with the College’s Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

5. Right of Withdrawal

Under Section 405 of the Education Act 1996, parents may, if they wish, withdraw their children from all, or part, of the sex education programme provided other than topics covered by the National Curriculum.

6. Confidentiality

Staff cannot guarantee confidentiality towards students. Please see the College’s Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy for more details.

Health, Sex and Relationships Education			
Author/s:	Jade McLellan Paul Cozens	Date Reviewed:	Michaelmas 2019
Date Ratified:	Michaelmas 2019	Next Review Date:	Michaelmas 2021
Committee:	N/A	Clerk to the Governors Signature:	N/A