

**Mount Grace School**  
**Committed to Excellence**

Policy for	Sex and Relationship Education	Responsibility of	Mrs BA Crawford
Date of ratification	Spring 2011	Date of Review	2013

**Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

Be healthy    Stay safe    Enjoy

***Named Person***

Mrs B A Crawford AHT Director of Inclusion

***Relationship / Links with other Policies***

Reference to this policy will be made in the Child Protection Policy

***Guidance Documents***

The DfES guidance Sex and Relationship Education (National Children's Bureau) 2005 (Education Act 1996)

Hertfordshire 'Sex and Relationship Education' guidance

*"Sex and relationships education is learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships, sexual health and ourselves. The term 'sex and relationships education'...represents learning about sex and relationships in all settings including home, care, community, youth, secure, school and other educational settings" (FPA - Policy Statement January 2006)*

***Aims:***

At Mount Grace Sex and Relationship Education seeks to help students develop their knowledge, skills and understanding about the value of loving, stable relationships, sexuality and sexual health. Ultimately, it aims to encourage young people to be independent and confident and lead healthy lives as informed and active citizens where marriage, strong positive relationships and family life are held in high regard.

***Rationale***

- To develop students' knowledge about healthy and safe lifestyles so they can make informed decisions when the need arises
- To develop independence, confidence and self esteem
- To develop knowledge and understanding about sexual health and relationship services that are available
- To provide students with the opportunity to consider the advantages of stable and fulfilling relationships
- To enable young people to develop an understanding of and respect for difference in sexual orientation.
- To provide students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of safe decision making and consequences of certain actions
- To enable students to consider and develop skills needed to protect themselves from exploitation
- To develop students' knowledge about the relevant law in the UK and in other countries with respect to Sex, Sexuality and Sexual Discrimination

### **Values**

The sex and relationship education programme reflects the school ethos that Mount Grace is committed to the health, safety and emotional well being of all of its members. It demonstrates and encourages the following values:-

- Respect for self and others
- Responsibility for own actions
- Rights of the individual
- Respect for difference (religion, culture, race, sexual orientation etc.)
- Regard for family life, friendships and the wider community
- Equality

### ***The Sex and Relationship Education Curriculum***

At Mount Grace we believe the purpose of Sex and Relationship Education should be to give students the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy life style and to relate these to their own actions now and in the future.

### ***Organisation and Delivery***

- The curriculum is organised by the PSHE coordinator.
- The course is delivered in a number 50 minute lessons within the Citizenship Programme by specific teachers.
- The course starts in year 7 and develops in a coherent programme to year 11. In KS3 and 4 the curriculum is taught in form groups of mixed gender.
- Years 7-13 participate in PSHE Activities **during challenge days**, where they attend workshops or talks taken by experts; e.g. relationships, sex, family planning, self esteem, STIs etc. Different themes are focussed on for each year group.
- The Head of Science co-ordinates the delivery of the Science National Curriculum orders in designated science lessons at each key stage. Both departments liaise to ensure continuity.
- It is expected that a wide range of approaches will be used to encourage active and accelerated learning methods and student participation. Eg. Group work, role play, discussion work etc.
- Schemes of Work and lesson plans are available from the PSHE co-ordinator (and on the schools computer network in the P:drive) with clearly defined learning outcomes for lessons and presentations.
- Teaching programmes meet the needs of students of all abilities
- Staff appreciate the sensitivity of the work and will negotiate ground rules to set the boundaries of appropriateness.
- All students in the school have access to the sex and relationship education.

**Staff** who teach sex and relationships education are expected to:

- provide sex education in accordance with this policy and in a way which encourages pupils to consider morals and the value of family life
- participate in training to provide sex education in line with the school curriculum policy
- implement the agreed scheme of work
- draw to the attention of the Head of Faculty any materials which they consider to be inappropriate
- respond appropriately to those students whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from sex education.

### ***Working in Partnership with Parents***

The school is committed to working with parents and will encourage parents to follow up issues raised in sex education lessons. It also acknowledges the right of parents/ carers to withdraw their child for all or part of the sex and relationship PSHE curriculum. **All** students must attend the science curriculum lessons. Parents who wish to exercise their right to withdraw their children from these lessons must make an appointment to discuss their concerns with the Head of the Humanities Faculty.

### ***Child Protection Issues***

Any concerns or disclosures made about sexual abuse must be followed up under the Child Protection procedures (The Child Protection Policy is available on request)

### ***Confidentiality***

The school aims to support young people but students are told that no member of staff can guarantee absolute confidentiality. The teacher will share the concern with appropriate senior staff and then professional agencies if required

### ***Visiting Speakers***

Any visitors invited by the school to deliver a particular part of the sex and relationship programme will be clear about the curriculum and the boundaries of their input. Lesson plans are expected and agreed.

### ***Monitoring and Evaluation***

Monitoring of the programme will take place annually by consultation with students and staff on the effectiveness of lessons during the year and any issues which may have arisen. The policy will be reviewed every two years

The governors support the teaching staff and their professional judgment in all matters relating to sex and relationship education.