



Reviewed September 2019

Approved by: Martin Meenagh

Next review date: August 2020

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) POLICY

Chelsea Independent College promotes Fundamental British Values and as part of that believes in the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) as promoted in 21stc Britain with respect to other cultures, within our multicultural college environment.

At CIC, the aims of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) are as follows:

- To provide balanced and factual information;
- To enable students to make informed decisions and to react appropriately to different situations;
- To encourage students to consider the consequences of their actions;
- To encourage students to reflect upon their own emotional development;
- To stress the importance of considering the emotions and views of others;
- To emphasise the importance of good communication in relationships;
- To ensure students have a clear understanding of the legal framework, and the importance of consent.

We aim to be inclusive in our RSE. The material will be delivered in a way which takes into account the many different backgrounds and beliefs of students, and does not discriminate against a student's sexual orientation.

The delivery of Relationships and Sex Education

Discussion of relationships and the importance of good communication within all types of relationships occurs at various levels throughout the College.

We aim to provide background and information about relationships and sex, without moralising and telling students what they should or should not do: they need to make their own, informed decisions, having considered all the facts and issues.

We encourage students to discuss and think carefully about the importance of relationships and the kinds of qualities which they would expect from a healthy relationship. We discuss the complexities of sexual relationships – emotions (their own and those of their partner);

moral and legal implications; and unwanted pregnancies and STIs. We encourage students to remember the importance of good communication in all relationships.

We provide students with information about STIs (including symptoms, and the importance of early detection) and contraception (including the advantages and disadvantages of a variety of contraceptives).

We deliberately try to avoid giving hand-outs, which can easily be lost or discarded. We try to point the students to easy-to-remember and reliable websites for information: for example, the NHS website. The website "Getting it on" provides information on sexual health services for teenagers living in South-West London, supported by the NHS.

Responsible persons

The PSHEE coordinator is responsible for the provision of teachers, materials and the scheme of work for RSE. Some topics are delivered by Biology and Chemistry teachers.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Given the nature of RSE, formal lesson observations are not always appropriate. For this reason, it is imperative that the coordinators of PSHE and Health Education communicate regularly with those delivering the RSE curriculum, to discuss:

- the resources and methods that are used;
- their appropriateness and effectiveness;
- the reaction of students to the lessons and materials;
- the inclusion of new topics that may need to be covered.

Parental involvement and parental rights

We recognise that parents have the final decision about their child's Relationships and Sex Education. Some of the topics we discuss may be deemed inappropriate to the background and beliefs of individual parents and their child. In such cases, we fully respect and uphold the rights of parents to withdraw their child from aspects of the course. If parents have any queries or wish to withdraw their child from RSE, they should contact their child's tutor in the first instance. The Head of Year will discuss the matter fully if such a request is made. Alternative arrangements will be made for students in these circumstances: usually, this will involve private study in the student study room.

The right to withdraw from lessons relates only to RSE, and not to the teaching of the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction necessary under GCSE science.