



Sex Education Policy

2011-12

This policy applies to Early Years Foundation Stage, Junior School and Senior School.

A Summary for Parents

The Trustees of Hollygirt School believe that sex education is part of the educational entitlement of all girls. All young people, whatever their ability, develop physically and emotionally, and need to be helped to understand their bodies and their feelings. Sex education helps the girls' overall development, confidence and self-esteem.

The law requires schools to provide a compulsory programme of sex education including teaching about HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases for all pupils of Secondary age, whatever type of school they attend. This law also allows parents the right to withdraw their children from sex education, except those parts which are in the National Curriculum Science syllabus.

The sex education programme we offer at Hollygirt is planned to take account of the girls' age, maturity and physical development.

The programme will be taught by class teachers and science teachers. Outside speakers will augment the programme where appropriate, and all discussions will be tailored to the maturity and understanding of the girls.

Aims

Hollygirt School believes that sex education is an educational entitlement of all pupils and an integral part of each pupil's emergence into adulthood. All teaching stresses the importance of a secure family unit and emphasises the need to gain a sense of responsibility, self-respect and self-discipline.

All lessons covering sex education aim to give the girls a sound knowledge of their own bodies and sufficient information about the subjects under discussion, so that they are able to make informed choices as responsible, disciplined and independent members of society. Questions are always answered truthfully and openly, appropriate to the age, ability and background of the girls.

Organisation

There is no formal programme of sex education before Year 6 but any questions which arise out of situations at home or school are dealt with honestly and sensitively as part of a whole school policy. The area of 'Stranger Danger' is covered at various points throughout the school curriculum.

From Year 5 puberty is delivered through planned aspects within the Science, Issues and Religious Studies curricula. Moral and ethical issues, arising from apparently unrelated topics in all National Curriculum subjects will continue to be discussed within the context of the subject, and as such will not be deemed as part of the sex education programme and therefore will not be subject to the parent right of withdrawal.

A variety of teaching approaches are used to give pupils relevant information, to enable moral issues to be explored through discussion, and to acquire appropriate skills.

Specific Issues

Confidentiality and advice

- Disclosure or suspicion of possible abuse - the school's child protection procedures will be invoked.

- Disclosure of pregnancy or advice on contraception - the school will always encourage pupils to talk to their parents first, but opportunities are created for girls to approach individual members of staff should they feel the need for further information or time to discuss individual problems. Confidentiality of the pupils will be respected as much as possible, save where there is a breach of law. Any problems which cannot be dealt with in school would, where appropriate, be referred to a trained professional, with the permission of the pupil and the Headmistress.

Family Life

- The value of family life will be approached through a consideration of the qualities and relationships, within a family structure with an emphasis on stability, respect, caring and support.
- As part of the sex education programme, issues of contraception, STIs, sexuality and abortion are addressed. Facts are presented in an objective and balanced way with the girls being made aware of the difference between fact, opinion and religious belief.

Complaints Procedure

- Any complaints about the sex education curriculum should be made to the Headmistress who will inform the Trustees.

Parental Partnership

In line with the Government's directive, we accept that parents have the right to withdraw their children from non-national curriculum sex education. Parents requesting withdrawal will be invited to discuss their concerns with the Headmistress.

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually.

Implementation

<u>Year</u>	<u>Subject Lessons</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Resources</u>
3, 4 and 5	Science	Reproduction in animals as part of characteristics of living things. From Year 5 - Personal hygiene, puberty and menstruation (Healthcare Co-ordinator and Form Tutor)	Worksheets
6	Issues Science	Reproductive system, through to pregnancy & birth Child development up to age of 5 years Reproduction in animals and humans	BBC Sex Education video and worksheets Leaflets and Library books Samples of S.T.s
Staff: Year 6 Class teacher, Healthcare Co-ordinator and Key Stage 2 Science Teacher Any questions which arise are answered to the understanding of the girls.			
7	Issues Biology	Sexual reproduction in humans Male and female reproductive organs Puberty, conception and gestation Birth - to include multiple births and various modes of delivery Care during pregnancy and breast feeding Puberty and menstruation (Healthcare Co-ordinator and an outside speaker)	Living and Growing video Samples of S.T.s and tampons
Questions and answer sessions are held when and if appropriate. At this level the aim is to introduce the scientific, social and practical aspects of sex education.			
8	Issues	Stranger Danger Sexual Abuse Right to say no	Issues Book 2
9	Science Religious Studies Issues	Biology lessons – revision of sexual reproduction in humans (as year 7) Intimacy and relationships	'Make Love Last' – Video resource pack

		Sexuality Risks of early sexual activity Waiting as a valid choice Resisting pressure Discussion of moral and religious beliefs Abortion – sanctity of life	
	The emphasis is on the moral implications involved.		
Year	Subject Lessons	Content	Resources
10	Issues	Sex Education/Relationships Abortion Aids/HIV, other sexually transmitted diseases and safe sex Contraception	Quizzes Self-analysing questionnaires Multiple choice sheets BBC Aids Video Contraceptive Display List Health Advisor from the G.U. Clinic speaking on sexually transmitted diseases Leaflets
	All delivered by a qualified health professional in Issues sessions. Ethical issues also address in General RS lessons. Emphasis at Year 10 is on the need for an individual and mature attitude in secure and stable relationships and to make informed choices.		
11	Issues Religious Studies Biology Lessons	Reproduction in humans Puberty, copulation, fertilisation Pregnancy and birth Smoking during pregnancy Menstrual cycle and hormones Contraception / STIs Birth of a baby Ante-natal care of mother and baby Post natal care Abortion – when does life begin?	Videos 'The Miracles of Life' 'Your Baby's Birth' Leaflets/books
	All delivered by a qualified health professional in Issues sessions. Ethical issues also address in General RS lessons.		

Revised July 2009

This policy will be fully revised during 2011-12