

Sex Education & Relationship Policy

ETHOS

We wish to encourage students to consider the values and attitudes around sexual health and development, healthy relationships, and encourage self-esteem and self-awareness. Sex and relationship education is provided in the context of moral responsibility for oneself and towards others.

AIMS:

- To provide a basic knowledge about sexual health and human development.
- To ensure opportunities for students to develop communication and decision-making skills.
- To promote loving, caring and healthy relationships.
- To make young people aware of sources of help and information available to them.

HOW WE ADDRESS SEX EDUCATION

Sex education will be taught as part of the Personal and Social Development programme and Science curriculum. Students at Marland will normally receive sex education within their class groupings but this may also occur, where appropriate during 'supervision' sessions with their Care Keyworker.

Drop in sessions for Healthy Relationships are available for all students on the residential site on a monthly basis, with staff informed and resourced by NHS professionals.

PASTORAL CARE

All staff are expected to answer student enquiries appropriately in accordance with their age, culture, gender, cognitive ability and understanding.

PARENTAL RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from any or all parts of the school's programme of sex education, excluding those elements that are required by the National Curriculum Science Order. The Order requires that biological aspects of human sexual behaviour shall be taught as part of the curriculum for Key Stages 3 & 4. The parental right of withdrawal may be exercised by either parent or by a person who has the responsibility or care of the child. Students withdrawn will be accommodated away from the main class and set alternative Personal, Social & Health Education work.