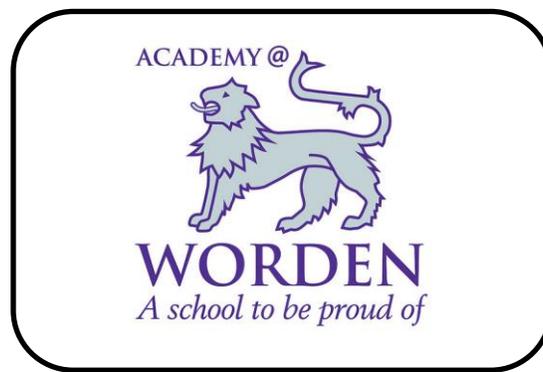


Academy @ Worden



Sex Education Policy

Sex Education Policy

At Worden, sex education should encompass, in addition to facts about human reproductive processes and behaviour, consideration of the broader emotional and ethical dimensions of sexual attitudes. It must include, at a point appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils, education about HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases and sexuality. In dealing with these and other sensitive matters, such as contraception and abortion, schools should aim to offer balanced and factual information and to acknowledge the major moral and ethical issues involved. Teaching must take into consideration the ethnic and religious background of the students involved.

Aims and Objectives:

In terms of sex education at Worden, we aim to achieve the following:

- i. To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society;
- ii. To prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experience of adult life;
- iii. To provide information appropriate to age group whilst remaining sensitive to religious and ethnic background.

Moral Values and Framework:

Sex education is an important part of children's preparation for adult life. At Worden, the purpose of sex education should be to provide knowledge about loving relationships, the nature of sexuality and the processes of human reproduction. At the same time it should lead to the acquisition of understanding and attitudes which prepare pupils to view their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner. It must not be value-free; but be tailored to the age and also to the understanding of pupils.

The school believes that its sex education programme should therefore aim to present facts in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner, set within a clear framework of values and awareness of the law on sexual behaviour. Pupils should accordingly be encouraged to appreciate the value of stable family life and the responsibilities of parenthood. They should be helped to consider the importance of making informed choices, respect for themselves and others, acceptance of responsibility and sensitivity towards the needs and views of others.

They should be enabled to recognise the physical, emotional and moral implications, and risks, of certain types of behaviour, and to accept that both sexes must behave responsibly with regard to sexual matters. Teachers need to acknowledge and respond with sensitivity to children from different backgrounds. Sensitivity is therefore needed to avoid causing hurt and offence to children and their families and to allow all children to feel a sense of worth.

All staff should be careful not to impose their own views on the pupils.

Practical Support:

There is input into PSHE lessons from the school nurse. Students are also made aware of the opportunity to speak with the nurse at her regular lunchtime drop-in sessions and the various external sources of information and advice

Content Headings for the School Sex Education Programme

1. Friendships and relationships.
2. Changes and growing up.
 - * Responsibilities
 - * Friendships
 - * Physical changes: puberty
 - * Psychological changes: different image of yourself
3. Reproduction
4. Contraception
5. Abortion: a moral issue
6. HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases
7. Legal issues will be dealt with in the light of current legislation
8. Parenting: Childcare/ Long term responsibility/ Economics of child care

Equal Opportunities

All students regardless of their gender, religious or ethnic background are entitled to receive Worden's sex education programme.

Organisation of School Sex Education

Sex Education is provided within the PSHE programme and a unit, of approximately 6 weeks' duration, will be delivered each year to each group. There are also elements of Sex education covered in science and RE lessons.

All members of staff may be involved in teaching the programme as well as outside agencies.

Training

This will continue as part of the school's on-going training and development programme. Outside courses will be used where necessary or appropriate.

Methodology and approach

This should be open, honest and factual. The sex education programme will be delivered through the Personal and Social Education programme and through Science and RE lessons.

Child Withdrawal Procedures

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Sex Education, however, it is hoped that this right would be rarely exercised.

Complaints Procedure

If a parent has a complaint it should be referred to the Head of Subject or Progress Manager.

Resources

We are constantly looking for non-biased, factual and accessible materials. DVDs, the School Nurse, outside agencies and teaching packs are just some examples of materials that will be used.

Child Protection

Mrs Wood and Mr Hammersley are the named Designated Senior Leaders for Child Protection to whom all cases should be referred. Information should be treated in confidence and confidentially would only be broken in extreme circumstances.