

A sample template for a School Sex Education Policy

Introduction

The policy should provide a brief explanation to show how the policy addresses legal requirements, national strategies and Welsh Assembly Government guidance such as:

- Education Act 1996
- Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan, 2010 -2015
- guidance on sex and relationships education (SRE) in schools
- the requirements of the *Personal and social education framework for 7 to 19-year-olds*.

Links with other policies

The policy should be cross-referenced to related policies which might include:

- personal and social education (PSE)
- confidentiality
- safe guarding/child protection
- anti-bullying (including procedures for dealing with homophobic bullying)
- equality and diversity.

Rationale

The policy should outline the school's vision of SRE within the school's values framework.

Aims

The policy should outline school-specific aims of SRE and expected outcomes for learners.

The management and organisation of SRE

The policy should provide a brief description of school specific roles and responsibilities of the:

- governing body
- head teacher and senior leaders
- the PSE/SRE coordinator.

The delivery of the SRE programme

The policy should provide a brief description of how SRE forms part of the school's PSE provision and the contribution made by other curriculum areas to the delivery of SRE. School specific information might include:

- who is responsible for providing the programme, e.g. class teacher/form tutor, specially trained staff, health professionals.
- the make up of teaching groups, e.g. mixed gender groups
- time allocation.

The content of the SRE programme

The policy should set out the content of the SRE programme for each year group, summarising when key themes are introduced. This might be presented as a curriculum overview grid showing continuity and progression within and across key stages.

Specific sexual health issues

The policy should provide a brief description of school specific parameters for and approaches to teaching about potentially sensitive issues.

Resources

The policy should provide a brief description of the specific resources used to deliver the SRE programme.

Confidentiality

The policy should outline:

- what additional support teachers can give to learners regarding advice, counselling and treatment
- how personal disclosures to teachers will be dealt with.

Involving learners

The policy should specify how the views of learners will be sought and describe how the SRE programme meets the needs of all learners to include:

- how the specific needs of boys and girls are addressed
- how the perspectives of learners from different cultural and religious backgrounds are addressed.

Continuing professional development

The policy should explain the arrangements for:

- identifying the professional development needs of staff
- meeting the training needs of key staff
- sharing effective practice.

Working with parents/carers and the wider community

The policy must contain an explicit statement about the right of parents/carers to withdraw their child from sex education and how such requests are managed. The policy should also explain the arrangements for:

- consulting with parents/carers and the wider community
- making the policy available to parents/carers, e.g. in the school prospectus, other curriculum guidance materials, school website
- making SRE resources available to parents/carers.

The involvement of health professionals and external agencies

The policy should summarise how health professionals and external agencies, if any, contribute regularly to the delivery of the SRE programme.

Monitoring and evaluation

The policy should explain:

- who is responsible for monitoring standards of SRE learning and teaching
- the arrangements for involving young people
- how findings contribute to the school's self-evaluation process.

Arrangements for reviewing and updating the policy

The policy should explain:

- the date the policy was agreed by staff/governors

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- the arrangements for consulting with young people
- how frequently the policy will be reviewed.