

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

Legal Requirements, national Strategies and guidance from the Welsh Government.

Under section 404 of the **Education Act 1996**, the governing bodies of **all** maintained schools are required to:

(a) produce, and regularly update, a specific written statement regarding their policy on sex education provision, and

(b) ensure copies of the statement are available to be scrutinised (at any reasonable time) by parents of registered children, and to provide a copy of the statement free of charge to any parent upon request.

Parents are entitled under section **405 of the Education Act 1996** to remove their child from sex education lessons.

Under **section 101(1)(c)** of the **Education Act 2002**, all secondary maintained schools must include sex education for all registered pupils as a part of the school's 'basic curriculum'. When sex education is provided, **section 403 (1B) of the Education Act 1996** (as revised) requires head teachers and governing bodies to consider **Welsh Assembly Government Guidance**.

Section 403 (1C) requires the Assembly Guidance 'to include guidance regarding any materials produced by any NHS body for use in sex education in schools.'

Section 403 of the Education Act 1996 requires the governing body and the head teacher to: take any reasonably practicable steps to ensure that any sex education provided to a maintained school registered pupil is provided in a way that encourages that pupil to give due consideration to ethical issues and the value of family life.

Sexual Health and Welfare Action Plan for Wales 2010-2015

The *Sexual Health and Welfare Action Plan 2010–2015* renews the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to:

- improve the sexual health and welfare of the people of Wales
- close the sexual health inequality gap
- develop a society that supports open discussion regarding relationships, sex and sexuality.

Personal and Social Education for learners aged 7 to 19 in Wales: see the School policy

Welsh Assembly Government Newsletter 005/2008:

Safeguarding Children in Education: The Role of Local Authorities and Governing Bodies under the Education Act 2002;

Safeguarding Children: Working Together under the Children Act 2004(2007);

School-based Counselling Services in Wales – a National Strategy (Welsh Assembly Government, 2008)

All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008

Links to other policies

The School's Sex and Relationships Education Policy is related to the following policies:

PSE Policy
Confidentiality Policy
Child Protection Policy
Anti-Bullying Policy
Equality Policy
Religion and Ethics Policy

Links to other subjects

Science Curriculum
Religious Studies Curriculum

The School's Vision

The PSE framework for 7 to 19 year olds in Wales, September 2008 is used in planning Penweddig's Sex education curriculum. Our emphasis is on responsible, appropriate and healthy personal interrelationships when looking at the various aspects of sexuality. We emphasise the importance of a stable, safe and loving environment to family life. We teach about the nature of marriage and its importance for family life and raising children. Teachers should be sensitive and respect differences, ensuring that no child or young person is discriminated against due to their home circumstances.

Aims

The school has an important role in ensuring a positive and permanent influence on children and young people's sexual health and welfare.

The programme will:

- promote their spiritual, ethical, cultural, intellectual and physical development.
- enable them to enjoy relationships built on mutual respect and responsibility.
- encourage them to express their sexuality in positive ways and contribute to their ability to recognise and resist abuse.
- include considerations regarding parenting and sensitive issues such as abortion.
- prepare the students to take responsibility for their behaviour in their personal interrelationships.
- inform students how to get access to support and personal information.
- provide high standard sex and relationships education as part of their personal and social development.

Objectives

The School will assist students to:

- develop positive attitudes and values that influence behaviour
- develop the necessary skills to make responsible and informed decisions regarding sexual health and welfare
- promote self respect and respect towards others
- appreciate diversity of sexual orientation and celebrate difference
- develop successful relationships
- appreciate the importance of stable and loving personal relationships
- understand the physical and emotional aspects of sex, sexuality and sexual health and welfare

- understand the outcomes and risks related to sexual activity
- recognise the benefits of delaying sexual activity
- understand legislation regarding sexual behaviour
- know how to access appropriate advice regarding sexual health and welfare.
- help students to nurture skills and information appropriate to their age, understanding and development.

Specific Objectives

- △ to introduce the facts regarding physical and emotional development during adolescence and ensure understanding.
- △ to introduce facts regarding sex, contraception, abortion, sexual diseases, and AIDS in the ethical context of a relationship based on respect and love, and to create an awareness of responsibility and of the outcomes of sexual relationships
- △ to show pupils the importance of making individual, personal decisions regarding sexual relationships
- △ to give pupils the opportunity to consider and discuss issues related to sex in order to face life in a sensitive and thoughtful way.

Management and organisation.

- The Governing Body will ensure that a current and valid policy is in place for Sex and Relationships Education
- The Head and the Deputy Head in charge of pastoral care will ensure regular enforcement and monitoring of the policy

Introducing the Sex and Relationships Education programme

The PSE (Personal and Social Education) framework for 7 to 19 year olds in Wales, September 2008 is used in planning Penweddig's Sex Education curriculum. In accordance with the School's PSE Policy, PSE days will be held during the year, when the whole school will be dealing with these issues. The days are arranged as one day every term.

The lessons will be held as a mixed registration group and/or split into separate groups of boys and girls, depending on the topic to be discussed. Sex education will be taught jointly by the Health Service and those members of the school teaching staff who are comfortable with introducing these themes.

Programme Content

Lesson content varies according to year group, in order to ensure continuity and progression between years and key stages.

Overview of the Personal and Social Education curriculum

	Science	Religious Education	PSE
Year7	Puberty Discussion of the Reproductive system		Puberty (including feelings) “Happy Home/Happy relationships” (Domestic Abuse) “Crucial Crew” Communicating in a relationship Resisting peer pressure Self image and self esteem Identity/ Sexuality
Year 8		Marriage/Divorce/ Separation	Personal Hygiene/Puberty/Relationships Boy/Girl Images in the Media Family-different types of family Good relationships/poor relationships Identity/ Sexuality Influence of sexual images on young people
Year 9		Faithfulness in marriage Rules for life	Contraception Diseases Safety on Social networks/ mobiles and “sexting” Identity Starting and finishing a relationship-advice for teenagers Influence of sexual images on young people
Year 10	Agweddau geneteg	GCSE or Religion and Ethics Christian and Jewish attitudes towards sex before marriage The purpose of marriage Adultery Homosexuality Contraception Ethical issues Divorce/Separation	Contraception Diseases Sex and the Law Safety on Social networks/ mobiles and “sexting” Young Pregnancy Sexuality Relationship Abuse Influence of sexual images on young people (Women’s Aid)
Year 11	Genetics	See Year 10	Local Services Sexuality Young Pregnancy Influence of sexual images on young people (Women’s Aid) Sexual Consent
Year 12			C Programme (Condoms) Influence of sexual images on young people
Year13	“In vitro” fertilisation Genetic diseases- counselling Biological Processes/		C Programme (Condoms) Influence of sexual images on young people Discussion on Abortion

The programme will be introduced through various approaches e.g. the school nurses use a carousel game to introduce sex education in year 10. Learners have the opportunity to work with others or to work individually, e.g. filling in questionnaires regarding sex and legislation.

Confidentiality

The school policy on confidentiality and Child Protection is adhered to.

In summary, teachers/professionals cannot offer or promise confidentiality, especially regarding personal disclosures.

Students are encouraged to discuss with parents/ guardians and supported to do so.

We ensure that students are aware of the confidential support services available e.g. Counselling/school nurse.

Any disclosure to teachers is dealt with according to the Child Protection policy.

Including learners

Our aim is to ask learners for their opinions on the provision at the end of every school year, as already done on PSE days. Governors review the policy annually. The “Bocs becsó” (worry box) can be used for some lessons.

Continuous Professional Development

At the moment, staff need to attend CPD courses to develop the relationships element of sex education, so that more teachers feel confident that they can contribute to the provision. The training will depend on the nature of the lesson to be conveyed.

Working with parents

Parents are entitled to remove their children from sex education lessons (see above). The aim is to ensure that parents are fully aware of the school’s sex education policy, through clear communication. The policy will be placed on the school website as soon as it is approved by the Governing Body. Some children and young people may have difficulty in speaking to their parents/guardians and it may be that they depend on the school for most, if not all, of their Sex and Relationships education. It is important for sex education to be available for all school pupils whatever their age or social background. Learners should not be removed from Sex and Relationships education in order to spend more time on other aspects of the curriculum. Parents can arrange to see the content of the Sex and Relationships education programme before deciding if they want to allow their child to attend the lesson.

Including health professionals and outside agencies

See above. The Health Service contributes widely to the school sex education policy.

Monitoring and evaluating

The PSE co-ordinator is responsible for monitoring the standards within Sex and Relationships Education. The policy will be discussed annually by the School Council. The results of the monitoring process will be included in the welfare Development Plan as part of the School Development Plan.

Reviewing the policy

The policy is reviewed annually by Governors, whilst ensuring that the policy is also included on the School Council agenda.

