

POLICY FOR SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION (SRE)

What is the meaning of SRE at Larkmead?

1. SRE means lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity.
2. The teaching of SRE at Larkmead School will largely take place in Science and Personal Health and Social Education (PHSE) lessons in Years 7-11. However, matters relating to SRE will also occur in many other curricular areas such as Physical Education, English, Drama, Art and Philosophy and Religion (P&R).

The Aim of SRE

3. The aim of the SRE is to allow students to make informed, reasoned and responsible decisions about their sexuality and behaviour in the context of Personal Relationships.

Objectives of SRE

4. Knowledge and Understanding. To provide students with opportunities to learn about:
 - a. Puberty, personal hygiene and keeping healthy.
 - b. The reproductive system and menstrual cycle.
 - c. Pregnancy, contraception and sexually transmitted infections.
 - d. Well woman/man issues e.g. Breast and testicular cancer awareness including self examination, cervical smears.
 - e. The existence of differing sexualities.
5. Skills. To equip students with the skills to make responsible and informed choices as well as being able to consider options before actions and making students aware of risks/consequences. E.g.
 - a. Whether to be sexually active or not.
 - b. Whether to enter into a long term stable relationship or marriage.
 - c. Whether to have children and the responsibilities involved with having them.
 - d. How to maintain a long term relationship/marriage
6. Students should also be helped to develop the communication skills both verbal and non verbal, to enable them to express their ideas and thoughts, as well as be able to ask questions and seek advice from significant adults in their lives. This should also include the skill of parenting.
7. Attitudes and Values. Students will be encouraged to act upon the following basic considerations:

- a. Respect the rights and wishes of others, including your partner.
- b. Consider when and if sex is appropriate in a relationship.
- c. The need to consider the responsibilities involved in a sexual relationship, including contraception and safe sex.
- d. Respecting different religious or cultural beliefs, attitudes and values toward sex and relationships.
- e. Sex should never be used to exploit someone, but should always be consensual.

Review

8. This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body Student Welfare Committee every 3 years.

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