



**CRESTWOOD**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

# **Relationships & Sex Education Policy**

**Updated: April 2020**

Review cycle: 3 years

**Jess Machin**

# Relationships & Sex Education (RSE) Policy

## Rationale

Crestwood's mission is to enable all students to fulfil their potential and to prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. The Education Act 1993 requires secondary schools to provide relationships and sex education for all students as it is considered a crucial step in equipping children for life, both now and in the future as adults and parents. [Additional guidance](#) came into effect in 2020 making Relationships and Sex Education, as well as Health Education statutory subjects in state schools. It is also seen as a vital contribution towards achieving a substantial improvement in the health of the nation, in particular by reducing the rate of conception in under 16s and lessening the incidence of HIV, AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections.

## Aims

Crestwood recognises that parents have the prime responsibility for bringing up their children and that they are key figures in helping them to adjust to the challenges and responsibilities which sexual maturity brings. Crestwood will support them in this role by offering learning opportunities and raising awareness for both students and parents.

Crestwood aims to offer a sex and relationships education programme which:

- meets the comprehensive demands of the new [Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education \(England\) Regulations \(2019\)](#)
- Supports the aims of the [Keeping Children Safe in Education \(2020\)](#) statutory guidance
- complements and supports the role of parents and is developed in partnership with them;
- complies with the law, which requires teaching on HIV, AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections, and follows [Government and Local Education Authority guidelines](#);
- offers parents the opportunity to see teaching materials and information on how they will be used;
- makes best use of professional expertise on specific topics by the use of outside speakers (teachers will always be present at such lessons);
- promotes responsible behaviour, the value of the family and the responsibilities of parenthood;
- provides knowledge about loving relationships, the nature of sexuality, including homosexuality, and the process of human reproduction;
- provides information on effective and suitable contraception with support from partnerships, i.e. No Limits and Girl Talk, Boy Talk.
- is appropriate to the age and understanding of students;
- presents facts in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner within a clear framework of values and an awareness of the laws on sexual behaviour;
- and emphasises the development of health related skills, e.g. informed decision making; communication; exploring attitudes and acquiring accurate information.

- considers the needs of LGBT+ students and gives support/advice to all students so they are well informed.

## **Implementation**

Relationships and sex education is delivered with support from the [PSHE Association Programme of Study \(2020\)](#) and by tutors in our Personal Development Learning and Wellbeing programme. Visiting professionals also provide an input at both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. Further teaching on this topic also takes place in Ethics & Philosophy lessons at KS4.

Delivery of relationships and sex education is monitored by the PDL Coordinator through planning, monitoring, quality assurance of lesson plans and observation of lessons. Year Leaders provide support in additionally monitoring the delivery of content.

A detailed programme of study for year groups 7, 8, 9 and 10 is in place for delivery and this is supported with guidelines for delivery of the programme. The school website has a dedicated PDL section which outlines the topics students are studying and when this happens in the academic year. Copies of documents or further information is available on request.

Resources used will be in line with this policy. Parents will be informed as to when the programme for each year group is being taught. They have the opportunity to come in to view material and discuss any issues if they wish.

Crestwood staff understand and support the purpose and aims of the relationships and sex education policy. They receive training to ensure that they are aware of the legal implications and their professional responsibilities. Particular attention is given to the induction of new staff via their Year Leader and regular Year Team meetings.

Individuals may raise sensitive issues with teachers outside the classroom. Teachers will explain that they cannot offer complete confidentiality and will always try to persuade the young person to involve their parents and offer help in doing so. Students will be encouraged to seek advice from relevant health professionals and information on local services may be given. Partnership links (Youth Worker, School Nurse) provide professional support outside lessons. If a teacher is concerned as to the welfare of the student they will inform a senior member of staff who will decide on the appropriate action.

## **Right to Withdraw Children**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the school's sex education programme, but not from Relationships or Health Education. If any aspect of the programme causes concern parents are invited to discuss this with the Year Leader. Should a parent wish to exercise their right to withdrawal they are asked to write to the Head Teacher, who will inform the relevant teaching staff. Any such request will be dealt with sensitively and, as far as possible, in confidence. The request can be made up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.

Additionally, it should be noted that there is no right to withdraw children from the sex education elements required by the National Curriculum Science Order set out below:

1. Reproduction in humans (as an example of a mammal), including the structure and function of the male and female reproductive systems, menstrual cycle (without details of hormones), gametes, fertilisation, gestation and birth, to include the effect of maternal lifestyle on the foetus through the placenta (KS3)
2. Communicable diseases including sexually transmitted infections in humans (including HIV/AIDs) (KS4)
3. Mechanisms of inheritance and selective breeding.

## Policy Review

This policy has been drawn up by the Governors of Crestwood in consultation with Crestwood staff and Hampshire County Advisors. It will be monitored and reviewed by the Senior Staff and Governors every three years.

The programme of study will be monitored and reviewed regularly to ensure:

- i that all factual information remains correct and corresponds with the latest medical research and the law;
- ii and that the students are benefiting and learning from the lessons.

Both the above reviews will be achieved by:

- i Feedback from students, parents and staff.,
- ii Any questionnaires with parents
- iii Advice from Hampshire County Advisors;
- iv Inviting views from the Governing Body and Community professionals.

Signed Headteacher:- \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name:- \_\_KRISTA DAWKINS\_\_\_\_\_

Signed Chair of Governors:- \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name:- \_\_ANGELA WRIGHT\_\_\_\_\_

Date:-

Updated: - October 2020

Review Date: - October 2023