



**Health
Futures**
UTC

**Sex and Relationships
Education Policy**

Review and approved: March 2015

HEALTH FUTURES UTC

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

1. Introduction

This policy takes account of the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance document published by the DFE, the UTC's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Equal Opportunities Policy.

The purpose of Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is 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. Therefore, within a clear moral and scientific framework, it will enable students to acquire knowledge and understanding with respect to sex and relationships whilst positively developing their attitudes and values and their personal and social skills.

2. Objectives of SRE

The SRE programme of Health Futures UTC intends to enable students to:

- a) Acquire scientific knowledge of the reproductive process which will help them to counteract myths and folklore and stereotypical attitudes, which they may encounter.
- b) Learn in an objective and balanced way to enable them to understand the range of sexual attitudes, identities and behaviour in society.
- c) Set sexual activity in the context of relationships, including the value of intimacy in loving and caring relationships, the values of family life, the implications of parenthood and the needs of the very young.
- d) Learn in an atmosphere where questions about the reproductive processes can be asked and answered without embarrassment in a way that is appropriate to the individual involved.
- e) Acquire a vocabulary for such discussion which is understandable and uses appropriate terminology and language. (Explanation of certain colloquialisms may be necessary but their use should be avoided).
- f) Explore their attitudes and those of others to enable them to make informed, reasoned and responsible decisions about the attitudes and behaviour they will adopt in adolescence and adulthood.
- g) Promote a clear understanding of the rights and responsibilities of both males and females in sexual matters.
- h) Challenge sexism and prejudice in society and to promote equal opportunities.
- i) Develop a growing understanding of risk and safety (including online) and the motivation and skills to keep themselves safe.
- j) Work with relevant agencies as and when appropriate.

3. Delivery of SRE

SRE is delivered mainly through Personal, Social and Health Education and Science but may arise in other parts of the curriculum or within Tutorial sessions. The organisation and delivery of SRE within the UTC will be the responsibility of a specialist delivery team. Staff training and development will be provided by this team that develops a unified approach on methodology and the handling of controversial or sensitive topics. Topics covered during our SRE programme include:

- a) Biological aspects of human reproduction.
- b) Personal relationships, choice and self-esteem.
- c) Preventative sexual healthcare, contraception, STIs and HIV/AIDS.
- d) Relationships, family and marriage.
- e) Moral values held by different cultures and groups.
- f) Sexuality, discrimination and stereotyping and its various forms.
- g) Sexual harassment and its effects on individuals.
- h) The rights of the individual in sexual matters (including the legal implications).
- i) Moral and ethical issues including abortion.
- j) Support groups and agencies.

Parents/carers will be notified prior to the delivery of SRE.

4. Specific Issues

A student may be withdrawn by a parent from the sex education programme (excluding the area covered by the National Curriculum for Science). It is not necessary for a parent to supply a reason for the withdrawal. When this occurs the UTC will provide an appropriate alternative learning environment for such students. Any such request for withdrawal must be made in writing to the Principal.

In line with the UTC's Safeguarding Policy staff cannot offer confidentiality to students who make a disclosure during the delivery of SRE. All disclosures that raise child protection concerns must be reported to Senior Designated Person for Child Protection.

5. Monitoring Evaluation and Review

The Principal will report to the Governors relevant aspects of the working of the policy as appropriate.