



THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL

Sex and Relationship Education Policy

Introduction

In accordance with section 1 of the Education Reform Act 1988* and DfES Sex and Relationship Education guidance July 2000, any school curriculum should be one which:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society;
- Prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

This includes giving all pupils the opportunity of receiving a comprehensive programme of SRE education during their school careers. The Royal Ballet School seeks to follow those guidelines offered by the Government to maintained schools by ensuring that:

- Sex and Relationship Education (including education about HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases) is provided for all registered pupils.
- Any Sex and Relationship Education is provided in such a manner as to encourage young people to have regard to moral considerations and the value of family life.
- The governing body makes available to all parents a written statement of their policy on Sex and Relationship Education.
- The parents of a pupil may, if they wish, withdraw that pupil from all or part of the Sex and Relationship Education provided in a PSHE programme.

Sex and Relationship Education at The Royal Ballet School

Although not bound by the legislation applied to the maintained sector, The Royal Ballet School recognises that the needs of our pupils for information and guidance are no different from those of pupils elsewhere. The school therefore offers a comprehensive programme of Sex and Relationship Education which is provided through specific lectures and PSHE lessons and also through other curriculum areas such as science, English and drama. Although parents have the right to withdraw their child from SRE lessons they may not be withdrawn from any work that forms part of the examined science specification.

Description of School

The Royal Ballet School – is an independent day and boarding school for around 205 boys and girls aged between 11 and 19. Year 7 – 11 are based at White



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Lodge in Richmond. Year 12-14 are based at the Upper School in Covent Garden.

Moral and Values Framework

The Royal Ballet School aims to provide a challenging and demanding education in a friendly and supportive environment for boys and girls of mixed ability from a variety of social, ethnic and religious backgrounds. The school is committed to addressing the personal and social development of our pupils and attempts to achieve these aims through the academic curriculum, some extra-curricular activities and a well-developed pastoral system.

Description of Policy Formation and Consultation Process

This policy was formulated by a committee which included the Head of the Lower School, Head of PSHE, Head of Science, School Nurse and two members of the academic staff. The consultation process involved the Academic and Pastoral Principal, The Parent teacher association and the Governors. Parents may receive a copy of the policy on request.

Description of Programme of Study Formulation and Consultation Process

The Programme of Study was formulated by a committee which included the Head of the Lower School, Head of PSHE, Head of Science, School Nurse and two members of the academic staff. The consultation process involved the Academic and Pastoral Principal, the PTA, and the School Council. Parents may view the Programme of Study on request.

Aims and Objectives of School Sex and Relationship Education Policy

The Royal Ballet School aims to deliver Sex and Relationship Education to all pupils. This should:-

- Inform pupils about moral, emotional and health issues to enable them to make considered judgments and informed decisions when developing their own code of living.
- Contribute to pupils' learning about relationships, attitudes and feelings and how people live and work together.
- Help pupils to recognise the unique nature of each individual and encourage them to understand the importance of loving relationships based on mutual respect.
- Help pupils recognise their sexual nature as a part of their whole personality; this determines what a person is and not what they can do.



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- Reassure pupils that sexual development is a normal part of growing up. By presenting relevant facts, this will help them to come to terms with the emotional upheaval of adolescence.

Organisation

1. Sex and Relationship Education is primarily delivered through PSHE and within the science department, although some of the aspects will be covered by other subject areas.
2. The Head of PSHE and the Head of Science will be responsible for the planning and delivery of the Sex and Relationship Education Programme, using a wide variety of resources.
3. Outside speakers will be used to deliver parts of the Sex and Relationship Education programme at both the Upper and Lower Schools. These will be selected by the Head of PSHE, Head of Lower School and the Academic and Pastoral Principal.
4. The effectiveness of the Sex and Relationship Education Programme will be reviewed annually.

Specific Issues Statements

1. Issues such as contraception, homosexuality, abortion, AIDS, HIV and STIs will be dealt with on a factual basis. No attempt will be made to promote one particular viewpoint but pupils will be encouraged to evaluate the moral implications involved.
2. Teaching will be to the group as a whole. The Government advises that teachers cannot act as confidential counsellors on sexual matters to individual pupils.
3. Parents are informed that they may withdraw their child from Sex and Relationship Education lessons that are not part of a specific examination syllabus. Any queries or concerns should, in the first instance be addressed to the Head of Lower School. No reasons need to be given by parents wishing to withdraw their child, but a written application will be necessary.
4. Parents considering withdrawal should give thought to the fact that a child's ignorance or misinformation of such matters could result in embarrassment, distress and possible exploitation. It is likely that they will receive the information second-hand from their friends, possibly inaccurately, outside the classroom.
5. All teachers at The Royal Ballet School are aware of the child protection procedures regarding sexual and other types of abuse.



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6. All teachers and other staff members who are required and willing to teach SRE will have relevant training and resources.
7. Students with a specific issue or concern of a sexual or relationship nature are able to consult in confidence any member of staff with whom they feel comfortable, this might include housestaff, their Tutor, the school nurse or the counsellor at the Lower School or the House staff, Academic and Pastoral Principal, the school doctor or the counsellor at the Upper school.

Communication with Parents

There will be opportunities for parents to discuss any concerns with the Head of PSHE or the Head of Science, at parent / teacher mornings and to view resources and materials used in Sex and Relationship Education teaching.

Dissemination of the Policy

A copy of this policy will be available for parents of all pupils and members of the teaching staff and Governors. More specific details, relevant to particular year groups will be available on request as the Sex and Relationship Education programme proceeds.

Review Process

The Sex and Relationship Education programme will be reviewed annually and whenever there are changes in legislation.

Areas to be considered in the review will include the views of the Head of Lower School, SRE Committee Members, Academic and Pastoral Principal, Head of PSHE, Head of Science and School Nurse, training needs, the effectiveness of resources, the possible use of outside agencies and the views received from teachers, pupils, parents and Governors.

PH-A
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Approved by Governors May 2007



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Programme of study for SRE

Year 7

Science 4/5 weeks Human Reproduction topic Autumn Term

DVD box set 'The Human Body' presented by Sir Robert Winston with worksheets and teacher led discussion

Prog 1 - 'Puberty - Raging teens' covering body changes

Prog 2 - 'An every day miracle' covering pre-conception, conception, development of pregnancy and birth follows a married couple

DVD graphic, including nudity, enacted intercourse and an actual birth. PG shown on BBC1 before watershed

PSHE - 1 session

Physical and emotional changes at puberty (1)

This will take the form of frequently asked questions & answers collected and prepared in advance and placed in central resource library

Year 8

English lessons

Emerging sexual identity described in 'Billy Elliot'

PSHE - 3 sessions

1. Physical and emotional changes at puberty (2) – relationships focus

2. First visit of Evaluate team 'This is your life' (*yr 7 & 8 talk*). Focus on choices e.g. smoking, alcohol, friendships, relationships and a small section on sex

3. To provide answers to questions raised

Year 9

PSHE - 4 sessions

1. 'Sex - what is it really all about?'

2. 'Contraception 1'

3. 'Sexual Health'

4. Second visit of Evaluate team 'How Safe?' (*Yr 9 & 10 talk*). Focus on what influences their decisions about sex – media pressures, music. Plus info on contraception, pregnancy, termination and STIs.



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Year 10

PSHE - 2 sessions

1. 'Contraception 2' (to time with World Aids Day)
2. Third visit of Evaluate team 'Just the one' (*adapted yr 11/6th form talk*). Focus on whether to become sexually active now or to wait. Covers media pressures, STIs, multiple relationships and risks

Possible weekend activity sharing responsibility for looking after a baby simulation exercise

Year 11

PSHE/ end of year programme - 4 sessions

1. 'Relationships' (partners, marriage)
2. 'Contraception 3' and 'Sexual Health 2'
3. 'Sexual personal safety'
4. Fourth visit of Evaluate team 'Sex and Relationships - self esteem'

Upper School

Group session with the School doctor during induction week on sex and relationships issues covering specifically contraception and sexually transmitted diseases.

Notice boards and information sheets detailing contact details for specialist assistance in problems involving sex and/or relationships.

Access to the school counselor for advice on problems involving sex and/or relationships.

This document will be revised in line with changes in best practice and legislation. These changes will be notified to all concerned. Questions or comments should be directed to the appropriate member of the Senior Management Team.