



Relationships and Sexuality Education

Reviewed September 2017

Relationships and Sexuality Education is viewed to be a lifelong process, which includes the acquisition of knowledge, understanding, and skills, the development of attitudes, beliefs, and value about personal and social relationships in life, which should take place within a moral and social framework. Cedar Lodge School is committed in its aims to provide “a secure moral framework where pupils can acquire the values which form the basis of a civilised society”.

Purposes

The purpose of this programme is to enhance the overall personal, social, and moral development of all young people. It is about fostering self-esteem, a sense of moral responsibility, and the skills to make informed choices and discussions. The delivery of this programme should be within a framework of mutual trust, respect, and confidentiality, while allowing pupils the opportunity to discuss concerns with their teacher. By participating in our Relationships and Sexuality Education programme pupils should:

- develop self-awareness by understanding
- understand the concept of human reproduction and the responsibilities of parenthood
- consider and develop their own attitudes and values about sexual behaviour and respect the value of others.
- consider abstinence as the positive option, which is a reality to which, our pupils can aspire.
- develop coping strategies to counteract adverse peer pressure and media pressure in sexual matters.
- recognise potential sexual exploitation and develop confidence in dealing with situations.
- recognise the need to take responsibility for their own actions.
- develop an appreciation of the value of committed long term relationships and family life.
- understand the risks of irresponsible behaviour with special reference to pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and Aids.
- be informed of methods of self-protection, including contraception and awareness of the effects of alcohol and drugs in behaviour.

Guidelines

- This programme is delivered throughout the curriculum with special responsibility in Science, RE and Personal Development Where appropriate, outside agencies may have input during class time.
- Parents are encouraged to be involved in their son's/ daughter's engagement in this programme
- Teachers are encouraged to deal with any issues that may arise sensitively.
- A variety of teaching methods will be used active learning, use of visual aids, videos and media texts.
- A contract of trust respect and confidentiality is created within a specific teaching group.
- Pupils have opportunities to express concerns to a member of staff.
- Teachers are encouraged to promote an informed and responsible approach to delivery of the Relationships and Sexuality Education Programme.