



Montgomery High School

Personal Relationships Education Policy

Linked policy – Single Equality Scheme 2010-13

Approved by the Academic Standards Committee

11/01/12

Review period

3 years

Rationale

Montgomery High School is committed to the development and implementation of high quality PRE for young people to raise awareness and achieve a shared understanding of its importance and complexity, especially in the light of local statistics.

PRE has to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students in order to prepare them for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Equality

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Montgomery High School Single Equality Scheme 2010-13. School practices will be subject to equality impact assessment and any necessary action/s in relation to:

- Ethnicity
- Religion or belief
- Socio economic background
- Gender and gender identity
- Disability
- Sexual orientation
- Age
- Marriage/civil partnership
- Pregnancy

will be implemented.

Purpose

- To encourage respect for self and others, through the promotion of self-confidence and self-esteem
- To help develop the personal and interpersonal skills needed in establishing a wide range of relationships (including sexual and non –sexual)
- To examine the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty/adolescence and how these can affect behaviour
- To give students factual information, appropriate to their age group and development, in order that they may consider the legal, moral and emotional dimensions of sexual behaviour and the consequences of actions
- To promote positive, caring environments, loving relationships and the value of the central role of the family

Guidelines

- It is recommended that all staff who have significant involvement with young people will receive appropriate training around PRE
- Sex education issues are covered within the Health Education programme in PHSE. In addition, certain factual aspects are taught in science and the moral implications are studied in RE.
- Topics within sex education are re-introduced at increasing levels of complexity as a spiral curriculum at appropriate stages of student development
- There is to be a strong emphasis on morality, legality and responsibility as well as factual information
- Where appropriate, representatives from external agencies may be invited to join lessons to enhance students' understanding
- Emphasis will be given to a flexible, discussion-based teaching approach to maximise student involvement
- Sensitive issues will be raised in context after thorough preparation work by the group and good student-teacher understanding has been established
- Throughout all teaching aspects of the course, recognition of a responsibility and moral obligation to parents and students alike is of utmost importance
- Parents of all students will be informed of the intention to teach PRE within the PHSE lessons in the annual information pack. Parents have the right to withdraw their child provided they inform the school in writing. Where this happens, the student concerned will be sensitively withdrawn and an alternative provision will be made for them
- The PRE programme will be monitored and evaluated on an ongoing basis and students will be consulted about their views through the use of questionnaires and discussion groups
- Staff will be made aware of the potential for Child Protection issues around PRE and instructed to follow the usual guidelines

Conclusion

A great awareness of local issues and statistics reflecting the profile of Blackpool's young people needs to be maintained. All PRE issues to be regularly reviewed and raised in order to meet the changing demands society puts on the lives of our students.

January 2012

Dear Parent(s)

Students will learn about Personal Relationships in their PHSE lessons throughout their time at school. This will include puberty related issues in years 7 and 8 and cover topics such as relationships, conception, contraception and sexually transmitted infections in year 9. These areas will be re-visited in years 10 and 11.

All topics will be taught sensitively and within a moral framework, alongside skills such as assertiveness and decision-making. The aim is to develop sound knowledge and responsible attitudes in this area, and also recognition of the consequences of actions.

The school encourages you to discuss this important area with your children before, during or after our lessons as children and young people say that they greatly value being able to talk to their parents about these issues.

If you wish to withdraw your son/daughter from any of these lessons then please write to me at school and discreet, alternative provision can be made for them.

If you have any queries regarding this matter then please do not hesitate to contact me in school.

Yours sincerely,

Assistant Head/PHSE Co-ordinator