SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY

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1. Aims

A well-planned and sensitively delivered programme of sex education is essential for the school's task of preparing all students for the opportunities, challenges and responsibilities of adult life. The aims of the school's sex education programme, an outline of which is attached to this statement are:

(a) to help students approach sexual relationships responsibly, with self-respect and respect for others, and without risk to their own and other people's physical and emotional health;
(b) to enable students to understand the relevant biological facts;
(c) to encourage pupils to consider the moral issues which arise and the value of family life, and to recognise the value of caring, loving relationships.

2. Delivery

It is the governing body's policy that the programme should be delivered in a sensitive and caring manner, which recognises gender, sexuality and the wide variety of pupils' backgrounds and the pace at which students mature. Topics should be dealt with openly, clearly and simply and pupils' questions should be answered with these aims in mind.

3. Teaching Materials

It will be for the teachers to use their professional judgement, in accordance with the requirements of paragraphs 1 and 2 above, in the choice of teaching materials and the use of suitable outside speakers.

4. Teachers

The programme will be delivered by those teachers who have been made familiar with it by the PSHE co-ordinators (with the exception of that part covered by

National Curriculum Science) and have received from them information and support to deliver it confidently and effectively.

5. **Personal Issues**
   If an individual student who has not been withdrawn from sex education seeks a teacher's advice on sexual matters, including the student's own sexual activities, this will be given in accordance with the professional responsibilities of teachers. Students will be encouraged to inform and consult their parents, and other health professionals if appropriate. It will be for the teacher concerned, consulting the head teacher or other colleagues as appropriate, to decide whether parents should be informed.

6. **Publication of the Policy**
   The policy and programme are available for inspection at the school office. Copies are sent to parents when their child first becomes a student at the school. Parents are able to obtain further copies from the school office. The PSHE co-ordinators will explain the programme in more detail to any parent seeking further information.

7. **Withdrawal of Pupils from the Sex Education Programme**
   Beaumont School believes that students benefit from a programme of sex education the aims of which are as set out in paragraph 1. However, the law states that any parent has the right to withdraw their child from any part of the sex education programme at any time, with the exception of the National Curriculum Science content. The student will be withdrawn as soon as the parents written request is received. Students who have been withdrawn will be provided with alternative work.

8. **Review of the Policy and Programme of Sex Education**
   This policy and the programme of sex education will be kept under review by the governing body and parents will be informed of any changes that have been made to these documents.

9. **Child Protection**
   This policy is consistent with the Hertfordshire County Council Child Protection policy, which has been adopted by Beaumont School. In the event of any conflict, the Child Protection policy would take precedence.

NOTE: Within this policy, parent has the meaning attributed by the Education Act 1996 and includes others with parental responsibility.

23/06/04

Outline of the Sex Education Programme

Aims
The aim of this programme is to create an atmosphere in which students feel able to voice their views, ask questions and discuss issues in a sensible manner, dispelling any myths that may arise.

The issue of personal relationships is the theme that runs throughout the programme of PSHE. This includes peer pressure, self-esteem and the development of self-confidence. Sex education is an integral part of this.

The programme is designed to meet the aims set out in the policy statement.

Teaching methods
A variety of teaching strategies will be used, including class and group discussion, brain-storming, videos, role-play, quizzes, problem pages, decision making and problem solving exercises and worksheets. Outside speakers are also used.

Delivery of the programme
The sex education programme is delivered within the PSHE and Science curriculum. PSHE is taught throughout the school as set out below:

- Year 7 One lesson per week generally with the form tutor
- Year 8 As part of the Curriculum Activity Day programme
- Year 9 One lesson per week with specialist teachers
- Year 10 One lesson per week with specialist teachers
- Year 11 As part of the Curriculum Activity Day programme

YEAR 7
The objectives of the programme in Year 7 are:
- To recognise the importance of stable, caring relationships
- To enable students to understand the physical and emotional changes of puberty
- To dispel myths and to ensure that information is factually correct
- To consider what contributes to being a healthy person e.g healthy diet, exercise, non-smoking
- To learn about conception, birth and post-natal care
- To be given appropriate information about contraception and AID's

YEAR 8
The objectives of the programme in Year 8 are:
- To appreciate how gender and family roles develop
- To explore the positive and negative aspects of relationships: this to include gender differences, society's attitude to issues such as child abuse and domestic violence
- The influence of the media

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YEAR 9

The objectives of the programme in Year 9 are:

- To continue to develop student's understanding of the physical and emotional changes of puberty and how these will affect relationships and sexual awareness.
- To enable student's to make informed decisions about aspects of sexual health including the use of contraceptives such as the condom and the pill, teenage pregnancy and additional information about HIV and AID's
- To recognise that freedom to choose involves being responsible for one's actions and peer pressure and the law are factors that need to be considered.

YEAR 10

The objectives of the programme in Year 10 are:

- To further develop student's understanding of their sexual and emotional needs
- To continue to provide information that will enable them to make informed and responsible decisions
- To explore further caring and loving relationships within the family including the role of parents
- To consider individual responsibility within group social situations.
- To inform the students about the full range of contraceptives
- To make the students aware of the symptoms of breast and testicular cancer and the importance of regular self-examination

YEAR 11

The objectives of the programme in Year 11 are:

- To help the students continue to develop responsible attitudes towards others
- To continue to provide opportunities for open discussion on sexual and relationship issues

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